THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 28th November 1928.

The House met at 11 o'clock, the President (the hon. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU Garu) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Marjoribanks, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Norman.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. T. E
Krishnan Nayar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur M.
Subbarayan, The hon. Dr. P.
Muthiah Mudaliyar, The hon. Mr. S.
Seturatnam Ayyar, The hon. Mr. M. R.
Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Abdul Razack Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur S. K.
Adinarayana Chettiyar, Bar.-at-Law, Mr. T.
Anantakrishna Ayyar, Rao Bahadur C. V.
Anjaneyulu, Mr. P.
Appavu Chettiyar, Mr. C. D.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.
Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Bazl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, C.I.E., O.B.E., Khan Bahadur Muhammad.
Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu, Mr. P
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.
Bheemayya, Mr. J.
Cotton, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. C. W. E.
Dorai Raja, Rajkumar S. N.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur S.
Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C.
Foulkes, Mr. R.
Gangadhara Siva, Mr. M. V.
Gnanavaram Pillai, Mr. P. J.
Gopala Menon, Mr. C.
Govindaraja Mudaliyar, Mr. C. S.
Guruswami, Rao Sahib L. C.
Hampayya, Rai Sahib M.
Harisarvottama Rao, Mr. G.
Hearson, Mr. H. F. P.
John, Mr. F. Ch.
Kaleswara Rao, Mr. A.
Karant, Mr. K. R.
Kay, Mr. Kenneth.
Kesava Pillai, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur P.
Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur, Muhammad.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Koti Reddi, Mr K.
Krishnan, Mr K.
Krishnaswami Nayakar, Mr. K. V.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.
Kuppuswami, Mr. J.
Madhavan Nayar, Mr K.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
Mallayya, Dr B. S.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Marudavanam Pillai, Mr. C.
Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. B. V. S. Muhammad.
Muniswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur B.
Muniswami Pillai, Mr. V. I.
Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara.
Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.
Muthuranga Mudaliyar, Mr. C. N.
Nanjappah Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narayana Raju, Mr. D.
Narayana Rao, Mr. M.
Narayanan Chettiyar, Mr. Al. Ar.
Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
Parasurama Rao Pantulu, Mr. A.
Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Raja of Panagal, K.C.I.E.
Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. K.
Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramanath Goenka, Mr.
Ramasomayajulu, Mr. C.
Ramjee Rao, Mr. V.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C. S.
Robertson, Mr. R. J. C.
Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Saraba Reddi, Mr. K.
Satyamurti, Mr. S.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Sitarama Reddi, Rao Bahadur K.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Slater, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. S. H
Soundara Pandia Nadar, Mr. W. P. A.
Souter, I.C.S., Mr. C. A.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. R.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Subrahmanya Moopanar, Mr. S.
Swami, Mr. K. V. R.
Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur, Nattam Dubash Kadir Sahib.
Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Syed.
Tampoe, I.C.S., Mr.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Tulasiram, Mr. L. K.
Uppi Sahib Bahadur, K.
Venkatapathi Raju, Mr P. C.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V
Venkatarangam Nayudu, Mr. C.
Venkataratnam, Mr. B.
Venkiah, Mr. S.
Watson, I.C.S., Mr. H. A.
Wright, Mr. W. O.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
Zamindar of Seithur
Zamindar of Singampatti.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Agency

Renewal of sanads to pleaders in East Godavari Agency.

*741 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government Agent, East Godavari, granted sanads to four persons in 1927 permitting them to practise in certain Munsif's Court in the Agency area;

(b) whether the said sanads were directed to be granted in the usual course under the Agency rules without any time limit;

(c) the name of the Government Agent who granted such sanads;

(d) whether these sanads were not renewed in the next year, that is, 1928;

(e) if so, what the reasons were for not renewing these sanads; and

(f) whether the Government will direct the Government Agent to reconsider the matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No. The sanads which were granted were to be in force only up till 31st December 1927.

(c) Mr. G. W. Priestley.

(d) They were not renewed for 1928.

(e) Renewal was refused because there was already a sufficient number of qualified practitioners or old sanad-holders practising in the Agency Courts.

(f) No.

Mr. K. V. R. Swami:—"May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether the Agent can grant temporary sanads under rule 21?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"I must ask for notice. I thought the hon. Member referred me to an order which purports to give permanent sanads; I shall make further enquiries."

Irrigation

Action taken on the report of the Mettur Project deputation.

*742 Q.—Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any decision has been arrived at by the Government on the report made by the Mettur Project deputation, and if so, to what effect;

(b) whether the Government have any objection to publish the report for public information and criticism even if no decision has been arrived at;

(c) when the copy of the report was sent to the Government of India; whether it was sent with a covering letter, and if so, to what effect;

(d) whether there has been any correspondence between this Government and the Government of India regarding this report and the revised estimates after they were forwarded by this Government, and if so, to what effect; and

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(e) whether the Chief Engineer at Mettur has made any report that the expenses are likely to exceed even the last revised estimate, and if so, to what extent?

A.—(a) & (b) The report and the orders thereon have been placed on the Editors' Table.

(c) A copy of the report was sent to the Government of India on 20th August 1928, and they were informed that this Government's remarks on the report would follow shortly.

(d) No, except as stated in reply in clause (c).

(e) No.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I know whether the final Government Order of this Government has been sent to the Government of India ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Are this Government expected to delay any of the works pending the final orders of the Government of India on the Deputation report ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" No, Sir."

Tenders for the supply of cement to the Mettur Project.

*743 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any tender has been accepted for the supply of cement for the Mettur Project ; and if so, by whom and at what rate ;

(b) the total cost to the Government according to the above tender of the quantity of cement said to be required by the Government and for which tenders were invited ; and

(c) the number of other tenders, if any, that were received from others, and the respective cost to the Government according to them ?

A.—(a) The Government have accepted the tender of the Shahabad Cement Company to deliver 153,000 tons of cement at Rs. 31-7-0 f.o.r. Shahabad.

(b) Including railway freight, the total cost to Government will be about Rs. 82,62,000.

(c) Two other tenders were received, but their terms cannot be disclosed as they were confidential. The rates quoted by the accepted tenderer are lower than those in either of these tenders.

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know at whose risk, the Government's or the Company's cement will be transported from Shahabad to Mettur ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The answer gives information with regard to freight. As regards risks, I must ask for notice."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I know whether the Shahabad Cement Company is a European or Indian concern ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" It is Indian."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" Run by Indians ? "

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The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The Managing Director is an Indian."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Is the risk covered by insurance ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I believe the Government do not insure."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" With reference to answer (c), may I ask whether the Government can give the names at least of the people who sent tenders ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" In case of confidential tenders that is not allowed."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Are the Government satisfied that the other tenderers were not binami for the Shahabad company ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I know of no reason to suppose so."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know what percentage of waste do the Government anticipate during the transportation of the cement from Shahabad to Mettur ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I must ask for notice of that question."

Acquisition of lands for the Mettur Project.

*744-A Q.—Mr. K. KOTI REDDI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have taken or propose to take steps to give the ryots, whose lands have been acquired by the Government for the Mettur reservoir, lands in the reserved area ;

(b) whether the Government promised to let the lands so acquired till they are submerged by the reservoir, to the original owners on an annual payment of 4 per cent of the value awarded ; and

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the negative the usual terms on which those lands are now leased out ?

A.—(a) It is not understood what the hon. Member means by the expression " in the reserved area ". The Government have recently sanctioned the disafforestation of a portion of the Vanavasi reserved forest, measuring 620 acres, in the Omalur taluk of the Salem district in order to provide lands for the ryots whose lands were acquired for the Cauvery-Mettur Project and proposals for disafforesting another reserved forest are under the consideration of the Chief Conservator of Forests.

(b) No such promise was made by or on behalf of the Government.

(c) The terms have been that the leases should ordinarily be in favour of the persons who were the actual occupants and cultivators of the lands at the time when they were acquired and that the rent charged should be determined by the Collector of Mettur on the facts of each case.

The Government have since decided, on the recommendation of the Mettur deputation that the rent should be limited to four per cent of the compensation paid by the Government.

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Collection of rents from landowners whose lands have been acquired for the Mettur Project.

* 741-B Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the people residing in villages near Mettur, whose houses and lands have been acquired, submitted a memorial to the Government that there was an original understanding that the Government would collect from them only a rent calculated at 4 per cent on the purchase money paid to them and that the subordinate officers have been now demanding 6 per cent;

(b) whether the members of the Mettur Project deputation also have made a recommendation that the rent may be collected on a 4 per cent basis till the lands and houses are submerged;

(c) whether the Government have considered the whole question in view of the above and arrived at any decision, and if so, to what effect; and

(d) whether, if no decision has been arrived yet, the Government have any objection to come to a conclusion at once and pass orders in favour of the memorialists at an early date?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) & (d) The Government have decided that the rent should be limited to 4 per cent of the compensation paid by the Government.

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I enquire from what date the rent will be collected, from the date of the Government Order or any prior date?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"From the date on which the men are renting the lands."

Abolition of the Godavari Anicut division.

* 745 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Godavari anicut and its surrounding were constituted into a separate division for Public Works Department;

(b) of whom the staff consisted;

(c) what the annual cost of this department was for last year;

(d) for how long this separate department was in existence;

(e) the nature of the work this department was doing;

(f) whether this department has been abolished; and

(g) if so, for what reasons?

A.—(a) A subdivision was constituted in 1916 for the charge of the Godavari Delta Headworks which included the anicut, quarries, buildings at Dowlaishweram and brick, lime and surki manufacture.

(b) The staff consisted of an Assistant Engineer, two clerks and three peons.

(c) The pay of the above staff calculated on the basis of the average pay of the posts, amounts to Rs. 7,380 per annum. Information regarding expenditure incurred on allowances and contingencies is not available.

(*d*) Up till May 1928

(*e*) The subdivision was in charge of the works mentioned in clause (*a*) above.

(*f*) & (*g*) The subdivision was abolished, as the Chief Engineer reported that the work could be attended to by a supervisor working under the direct orders of the Executive Engineer, Godavari Headworks division.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"May I know whether the work was done satisfactorily till May 1928 under the old arrangement ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"So far as I am aware, the separate subdivision was abolished for the reason that it was an expensive arrangement."

Improvements to the head sluice of the supply canal to the Kanigiri reservoir.

* 746 *Q.*—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) at what stage the question of improving and increasing the number of vents at the head sluice of the supply canal to the Kanigiri reservoir in Nellore district is ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that owing to the deficiency of rain and precarious freshes in the river Pennar, sufficient water could not be let out into the supply canal from the river ; and

(*c*) whether the Government will consider the advisability of putting up falling shutters on the Sangam anicut to stop wastage of water ?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government have called for a report from the Chief Engineer.

Land Assignment

Assignment of lands to ex-military men in South Arcot.

* 747 *Q.*—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of men recruited from South Arcot for military service during the Great War ;

(*b*) how many of them applied for a grant of land, either by themselves or through their relations or heirs ;

(*c*) how many of the applicants have been so assigned lands up to date ; and

(*d*) the number of cases still pending assignment ?

A.—(*a*) One thousand eight hundred and forty-three combatants and 1,481 non-combatants.

(*b*) to (*d*) The following are the particulars of the applications for grants of land on account of service in the army received in the South Arcot district from October 1924 to 30th September 1928 :—

Number of applications received	679
Number of assignments made	298
Number of applications rejected	380
Number pending on 30th September 1928 ...	1

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It is not known how many of these applications were from men recruited from South Arcot district for military service in the Great War and how many from men who enlisted before the war or who lived in other districts. Figures relating to applications made before October 1924 are not available.

Assignment of the kuttai poramboke in Modalli village, Kollegal taluk.

*748 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether survey field No. 879 (kuttai poramboke) in the village of Modalli of Kollegal taluk in the Coimbatore district has been handed over by the Revenue authorities to the Taluk Board of Kollegal and, if so, for what reasons and under what conditions;

(b) whether the taluk board has passed a resolution that the land may be granted on darkhast to one Sivappa and, if so, whether the grant was made in spite of objections;

(c) whether the kuttai and the land around it are used by the villagers of the abovesaid Modalli and neighbouring villages for supplying water to their cattle and for giving them rest; and

(d) whether the taluk board have applied to the Revenue authorities to give effect to its resolution and whether the Revenue authorities have passed final orders in the matter and, if so, to what effect?

A.—A petition from the residents of Kamakarai Kongaralli village, Kollegal taluk, Coimbatore district, stating that the taluk board had proposed the assignment on darkhast of S. No. 879 of Modalli village to one Sivappa and objecting to its assignment was received by the Government. It was transferred to the President, District Board, Coimbatore, in original in September last. The Government have no further information on the subject but have called for a report.

Assignment of the tank-bed of the Owk tank in Koilkuntla taluk.

*749 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased in view of the answer given to my question No. 352 regarding assignment of the tank-bed of the Owk tank in Koilkuntla taluk, on 8th October 1928—

(i) to call for the information asked for in clauses (a) to (d) of that question; and

(ii) to state—

(a) whether or not applications were made by the local ryots to the Collector and were rejected; and

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, why they were so rejected?

A.—As it is open to any of the interested parties to appeal to the Board of Revenue and if necessary to the Government if dissatisfied with the orders of subordinate authorities, the Government do not propose to call for a report on the points referred to in the question.

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Land Revenue

Clearance of toddy date palms from vanka porambokes under Siruguppa channel.

*750 Q.—Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the road and vanka porambokes in the wet land area under Sirugappa channel are overgrown with toddy date palms;

(b) whether it is difficult for carts, buffaloes and even men carrying loads to go on these road porambokes;

(c) whether it is a fact that the vanka porambokes overgrown with these toddy date palms are difficult to be cleared of silt and weeds and that water does not flow freely through them;

(d) what facilities the Government have given to the ryots to clear these porambokes of these plants; and

(e) what steps the Government have themselves taken to clear these porambokes of this growth and help the people to use these porambokes for their rightful purposes?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) A complaint was received from the President, Taluk Board, Siruguppa, to the effect suggested in these questions aud the Collector in reporting on the matter after personal inspection stated that the complaint was in some cases well founded.

(d) & (e) The Government directed that the ryots should be permitted to remove under the personal supervision of a responsible officer the fronds and as many of the grown trees as was necessary to effect a reasonable improvement of the paths that were blocked.

Extent and assessment of S. No. 50 in Chinna Hotur village, Alur taluk.

*751 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the extent and assessment of S. No. 50 in the village of Chinna Hotur, Alur taluk, Bellary district;

(b) whether the whole of it has been under the occupation of Adi-Andhra Chinnanaraingadu first as sivajijama holder and afterwards as pattadar;

(c) the amount collected for the survey field before and after its assignment on patta; and

(d) whether the extent as per accounts is nearly double its actual extent and, if not, what the extent really is on the ground?

A.—(a) The extent of S. No. 50 is 4·85 acres according to the resettlement register of the village. No assessment was fixed on the land at resettlement as it was classed as poramboke.

(b) to (d) The Government have not the details asked for: and do not consider the matter of sufficient importance to call for a report. As however the hon. Member's question suggests there has been some mistake as to the area of the land, a copy of the question and answer will be forwarded to the Collector of the district.

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Alleged prohibition of cultivation in the Zamin Thanichiam village, Madura district.

*752 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of land in the zamin Thanichiam village, Nilakkottai taluk, Madura district, which was formerly classed as dry, and grown with dry crops but has been subsequently transferred to wet and grown with wet crops as the result of the introduction of the Periyar project;

(b) whether the cultivation on the said lands has since been prohibited, and if so, why; and

(c) if the answer to clause (b) is in the affirmative, whether compensation has been awarded to the owners concerned, and if so, how much and for what extent?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government have no information, but have called for a report.

Removal of prickly-pear, etc., from the supply channel to Harpanahalli tank.

*753 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether H. Narasinga Rao applied for and obtained a loan for constructing "vooddoos" (embankments) on his fields survey Nos. 381-D and 382 of Harpanahalli village, Bellary district, and built the "vooddoos" as per the terms of his loan order;

(b) whether the "vooddoos" were inspected during or after their construction by any officer of the Revenue Department and were considered to have been satisfactorily done, and if so, by whom and when;

(c) whether the survey Nos. 381-D and 382 are close to the supply channel of the Harpanahalli tank;

(d) whether the said channel is in a very neglected condition and has been allowed to be overgrown with prickly-pear, etc., with the result that during the rains water is diverted to survey Nos. 381-D and 382;

(e) whether the Government have taken any steps to have the channel cleared of the noxious growth in it and avoid the danger of damage to the land and the crop thereof of Narasinga Rao; and

(f) whether any and if so, what relief has been given to Mr. Narasinga Rao for the damage caused to his land and the crop thereon owing to the Government's neglect to keep the supply channel free from noxious growth?

A.—(a) to (f) The Government have no information but have called for a report on the case.

Opening of a Deputy Tahsildar's office in Sankarapuram.

*754 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to open a Deputy Tahsildar's office in Sankarapuram;

(b) whether the Government have collected statistics for the Kallakurichi taluk under revenue and criminal justice for the past three years;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints of the inconvenience felt by the ryots of outlying villages by being obliged to go to Kallakurichi for revenue purposes and trial of cases;

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(*d*) whether the establishment of a Deputy Tahsildar's office at Sankarapuram will be self-supporting besides affording relief to the people; and

(*e*) whether the Government will be pleased to call for the information ?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) No.

(*c*), (*d*) & (*e*) On receipt of a memorial in 1924 from the Bar Association, Kallakurichi, asking for the establishment of a Deputy Tahsildar's office at Sankarapuram, the Government examined the question and decided that there were no sufficient reasons for opening such an office. The Government are not aware of any change in the conditions of the case since 1924 and so do not propose to reopen the questions.

Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar:—"With reference to answer (*b*), may I ask the hon. the Revenue Member to collect statistics under revenue and criminal justice for the past three years for the Kallakurichi taluk from the Collector ?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"Does the hon. Member want me to collect the statistics ?"

Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar:—"May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether he will be pleased to call for the statistics from the Collector relating to the Kallakurichi taluk under revenue and criminal justice for the past three years ?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"I do not know why I should do so."

Landlord and Tenant

Introduction of the amending Bill to the Estates Land Act.

*755-A Q.—Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the undertaking given by him on 3rd September 1928 to introduce the amending Bill to the Estates Land Act of 1908 during the lifetime of this Council—

(*a*) the steps already taken to give effect to it;

(*b*) when the Government hope to publish and introduce the draft Bill as accepted by the Government; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the agitation for amending the Estates Land Act has been going on from long before the reformed councils came into existence ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) If the hon. Member will be good enough to refer to the report of the Proceedings of this Council on the date he mentions, he will see that no undertaking was given to the effect now alleged. The present state of the case is that certain matters have been referred to the Board of Revenue for report. The Board has been reminded. On receipt of its remarks, the subject will be taken up by the Government for decision. The Government hope that this will be possible before the end of the current calendar year.

(*c*) Proposals for amending the Act were certainly made before the time referred to.

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Introduction of amending Bill to the Madras Estates Land Act.

*755-B Q.—Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the landholders in a majority of cases are tyrannizing over ryots by not allowing them to freely graze their cattle or to get fuel and materials for fencing and for agricultural implements in the village forest;

(b) whether the Government propose to introduce an amendment to the Madras Estates Land Act clearly conferring the above rights in the village forest on the ryots by statutes instead of leaving them to chances of litigation; and

(c) when the amending Bill to the Madras Estates Land Act is likely to be introduced by the Government into the Council?

A.—(a) The Government are not aware that the fact is as suggested by the hon. Member.

(b) There is no such proposal before the Government at present.

(c) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 755-A. The Government are unable to say anything further at present.

Report of the Committee on the Estates Land Act.

*755-C Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Estates Land Act Committee has sent its report; if so, when;

(b) when the report was referred to the Advocate-General for scrutiny;

(c) whether he has returned the same after scrutiny; if so, when;

(d) why the introduction of this Bill has been delayed so long; and

(e) when the Bill will be introduced?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Committee did not submit any report to Government. A sub-committee with the Advocate-General as President was appointed to draft a Bill to be submitted for the consideration of Government. This draft was completed on 19th May 1928.

(d) & (e) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clauses (a) and (b) of question No. 755-A.

Mr. K. V. R. Swami:—"May I know, Sir, when this committee was first appointed?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"It was a long time ago. I must ask for notice of that question."

Mr. K. V. R. Swami:—"May I know why the Board of Revenue have delayed the matter so long? The report was sent to them on 19th May."

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"They have not delayed it. It was sent to them in July. The drafting of the Bill was completed on 19th May 1928. After consideration by the Government it was sent to the Board of Revenue in July. That information is given in a subsequent answer."

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Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—"May I ask whether the Bill will come before this House in the next session ?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—"We hope to come to a conclusion by the end of next month; we will then have to send the Bill to the Government of India and if it comes back in time, it will be ready."

Consideration of the report of the Malabar Tenancy Committee.

*755 D Q.—Mr. K. Madhavan Nayar : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the consideration of the report and the Bill submitted by the Malabar Tenancy Committee referred to in the answer to question No. 210 made on the 6th September 1928 has been completed and if so with what result;

(b) whether the Government propose to introduce any Bill to solve the tenancy problem in Malabar in the immediate future and if so, when;

(c) whether the Government have applied for or obtained the sanction of the Government of India for introducing any such Bill;

(d) what action the Government have taken so far on the report and the Bill submitted by the Malabar Tenancy Committee;

(e) whether the Government are aware that the report and the Bill submitted by the said Committee have been condemned by representative tenants and the tenants' association in Malabar as exceedingly one-sided and ruinous to the tenantry of Malabar; and

(f) whether the Government Bill is to be on the lines similar to the one drafted by the Malabar Tenancy Committee; if not what are the material changes it proposes to make in that Bill?

A.—(a) to (f) A translation in Malayalam of the summary of recommendations of the Committee and the draft Bill prepared by it has been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* on the 2nd October 1928 and in the *Malabar District Gazette*. The Collector of Malabar has distributed in Malabar copies of the summary of recommendations and the Bill. It is also proposed to hold a conference with representatives of the tenants and janmis at an early date. Thereafter the Government will come to a decision as to the provisions of the Bill which they will be prepared to introduce in this Council on the subject after obtaining the sanction of the Government of India.

The Government are aware that the draft Bill prepared by the Committee has been adversely criticised.

Mr. K. Madhavan Nayar :—"May I know whether the Bill and the report submitted by the Tenancy Committee have been considered by the Government at all?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—"We have considered them; only we have not come to any conclusion on them."

Mr. K. P. Raman Menon :—"It is stated that a conference with representatives of tenants and janmis would be held at an early date. May I know approximately what that early date will be?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—"I should hope in the month of December; if not, in the month of January."

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Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" May I know if the Government are prepared to expedite the various processes mentioned in the answer and to bring this Bill at the time of the next meeting ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The criticism directed against the Government was that people did not know what the Bill was. That is why we are distributing copies in Malayalam ; what is being done is to give the people time to consider the Bill The present delay is due to that."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" Apart from what has been done in the past"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is requested to put the supplementary question."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" May I ask whether the Government will complete the various processes mentioned in the answer and bring the Bill in the January meeting ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Since January is only two months from now, it may not be possible to do so then ; it may be possible a little later."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" May I know what the approximate time will be ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Predictions in this matter have been so falsified that I may be excused if I do not make another."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With regard to the conference with the representatives of tenants and janmis, may I know whether they are going to be elected or appointed ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" That is one of the difficulties in the matter, as to how they should be elected or nominated. The purpose is to see whether some of the objections against the present proposals cannot be met by modifications of the Bill."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" Is it a joint conference of tenants and janmis ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Joint."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Joint free conference ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Free and open."

Progress of the Estates Land Act (Amendment) Bill.

* 755-E Q.—Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the stage in which the consideration of the Estates Land Act (Amendment) Bill is ;

(b) whether the report of the Estates Land Act Committee has been sent to the Board of Revenue for their opinion ; and if so, when ;

(c) whether the Board of Revenue have sent their opinion ;

(d) whether it is a fact that a Member of the Board of Revenue always sat on the Committee ;

(*e*) whether the Government would place the opinion of the Board on the table, if it has been received; and

(*f*) if not, whether they would request the Board to hasten the submission of their opinion?

A.—(*a*) Certain matters relating to the Bill have been referred to the Board of Revenue for report;

(*b*) Yes; on 16th July 1928.

(*c*) & (*e*) The answer to clause (*c*) is in the negative.

(*d*) Yes; but of the three members of the Board who served on the Committee two have retired and the third served for only 6 months and has recently been incapacitated by illness.

(*f*) This has been done.

Legislative

Privileges to Fellows of the Madras University in elections to the Legislative Council.

* 756 Q.—Rajkumar S. N. Dorai Raja: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is proposed to take the necessary steps to amend the rules and regulations governing elections to the Legislative Council so that the past and present Fellows of the Madras University may be given the same privileges as are conferred on them in the case of elections to the Council of State?

A.—The revision of the electoral rules requires the previous sanction of the Government of India and the Secretary of State-in-Council. The suggestion will be borne in mind if and when the general question of a revision of the electorate is taken up.

Rajkumar S. N. Dorai Raja:—"May I know whether the Government will be pleased to take steps to make representations on this behalf to the Government of India as it will be too late for the next elections if the steps are not taken now?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"I do not understand what the hon. Member means by 'steps'. It will be brought to the notice of the Commission."

Reforms

Evidence before the Simon Commission.

* 757-A Q.—Mr. S. Satyamurti: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether this Government propose to let oral evidence before the Simon Commission;

(*b*) if so, whom they have proposed or propose for giving evidence before that Commission; and

(*c*) whether any evidence is proposed to be let before the Commission either by or on behalf of the Ministers?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government has come to no decision on these points.

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know whether the Government have at all considered at any time, the matter contained in my question ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Certainly ; it was never absent from our consideration."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know at what stage the consideration now stands in view of the fact that the Simon Commission will be upon us within about 2½ months from now, and whether the Government have advanced any steps in that consideration beyond being merely obsessed by it, that never being absent from their minds ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I cannot indicate stages of consideration."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know if the Government have any proposals for asking anybody outside the Executive Council, the Ministers, to give evidence on behalf of the Government before the Commission ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The Government do not propose to ask the Ministers ; it is a matter for the Ministers themselves."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Do not the Government include the Ministers."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Yes."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Reforms is a reserved portfolio ; may I ask whether the Government, who are considering this matter and cannot throw light on the stages of consideration, include the transferred half also or whether ' Government ' here means reserved half, Reforms being a reserved subject ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The Government as a whole."

Evidence before the Simon Commission.

*757-B Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Ministers or any of them propose to give oral evidence before the Simon Commission ;

(b) if so, the lines of that evidence ; and

(c) whether they intend taking the opinion of the Council on those lines and, if not, why not ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The hon. the Ministers have not informed this Government of either their views or intentions on the matters referred to.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" The answer is, Sir : ' The hon. the Ministers have not informed this Government of either their views or intentions on the matters referred to." May I know what the words ' this Government ' there means ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Owing to my bad handwriting, Sir, I think ' this ' has been copied for ' the.' "

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Then, may I know, Sir, if there is a practice in the Madras Government for a part of the Government to inform the Government by means of written communications as regards certain important matters covered by this question ? ".

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The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"The question is whether the Ministers propose to give evidence before the Commission. They have not said so or noted so, and there is nothing on record."

Mr. S. Satyamurti:—"May I know whether the hon. the Ministers are free, under the conventions and the rules under which this Government function in this province, to give evidence without reference to the Government as a whole?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"That is a constitutional question, and I should like to have notice."

Mr. S. Satyamurti:—"May I know if, as a body, the Government makes up its mind to give evidence or not to give evidence, whether the hon. the Ministers are bound by that decision or whether they are free to act?"

The hon. the President:—"That is asking for an opinion."

Mr. S. Satyamurti:—"Then I will ask for a fact. May I know if in a joint consideration to which the hon. the Revenue Member referred in the answer to a previous supplementary question, the hon. the Ministers have communicated at any time any views or intentions about their giving evidence before the Simon Commission?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"The question is answered in 757-B. They have not said so."

Special allowances for members of the committee elected by the Council for conferring with the Statutory Commission.

*757-C Q.—Mr. D. Narayana Raju: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the members elected by the Council for conferring with the Indian Statutory Commission have asked for the grant of any special allowances; and, if so, whether their request has been granted by the Government; and

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of the House the correspondence on the subject?

A.—(a) & (b) The appended[a] extract from a letter written by the Chief Secretary to Government to the Secretary of the Committee gives the information asked for.

Mr. J. A. Saldanha:—"May I refer to the last sentence of the appendix? It says: 'The Committee, moreover, is one appointed by the Legislative Council and it appears to the Government appropriate that the allowances granted to its Chairman and Members should be those ordinarily admissible to the M.L.Cs. when employed on the work of committees so appointed.' May I know why the words 'it appears' occur there? Is it the opinion of the Government?"

The hon Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"That is the natural meaning of the words."

a Printed as Appendix I at page 361 infra.

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Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Have the Government consulted the Accountant-General or their legal advisers whether this allowance could be paid out of the grant appropriated for travelling allowance of members of committees of this Council ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I am not aware of any legal disability, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know if the Madras Committee has sent any further communications on this matter, after the Government's letter ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"No, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I know, Sir, if the Chairman and Members of the Committee have given an ultimatum to the Government that unless they are given this extra allowance, they will non-co-operate with the Simon Commission ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I am not aware of it, Sir."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"May I know if the Government have considered the need for awarding some solatium to the Members for the displeasure they are incurring in the country ?"

The hon. Sir. NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I do not admit the implication contained in the question."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"May I know on what basis they have asked for special emoluments ? Is it to keep up their dignity as Members of the Committee or as compensation for the displeasure they are incurring in the country or for the great work they have undertaken ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"It appears they referred to the Indian Statutory Committee and I suppose they were going on that analogy."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"May I know if the Government are aware or have any idea that the Committee has asked for this increase on the ground of an honorarium for the excellent approbation they have got on the floor of this House ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"That is possible, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know if a covering letter was received along with this resolution from the Secretary or the President of the Committee ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"It was forwarded, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"Simply forwarded, or were there any amplifications ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"No, Sir."

Government Press

Educational qualifications of Mr. Magimadas, Acting Assistant Superintendent, Government Press.

758-A Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) (i) whether one J. Magimadas, a reader in the Government Press, was appointed to act as Assistant Superintendent on Rs. 250 ;

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(ii) whether the claims of one P. Sankaran Nayar, head reader on Rs. 185, a graduate in arts, were overlooked and, if so, why; and

(b) what are the educational qualifications of Magimadas?

A.—(a) (i) Yes. Mr. Magimadas was appointed as temporary non-gazetted assistant on Rs. 250 per mensem from 7th May to 5th July 1928 to do the duties of Assistant Superintendent.

(ii) No.

(b) Mr. Magimadas has passed the Upper primary examination, Compositor's work (elementary) and Proof-reading (intermediate).

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"May I know from the hon. the Home Member what is the charm of this Upper primary examination that it makes a reader possessing it get over the head reader who has already been in service for more than 19 years drawing Rs. 180, and whether this Upper primary examination is the same as the Lower secondary examination ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "He possesses all the qualifications necessary for the post, and the Superintendent when he considered the qualifications of all the persons that could be appointed to the post thought that he was the best person to be appointed."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—"Is the hon. the Home Member aware of those qualifications that made the Superintendent prefer him to a man who was getting a higher salary than this man ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The appointment is in the hands of the Superintendent and he has used his discretion."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"May I know, Sir, whether the man who ought to have got it was graduate and the head reader while the man promoted was in a lower grade and had absolutely no qualification ?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member is furnishing information."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know what pay this gentleman was receiving before he was appointed to this post ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "I want notice, Sir."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—"Did the Superintendent consider that the qualification of the other man, i.e., the graduate, was inferior to that of Mr Magimadas in promoting the latter over the head of the former ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— As I have said, the discretion is with the Superintendent of the Government Press."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—"May I know whether Upper primary examination equivalent to the I form ?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That is asking for an opinion."

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know whether any appeal is allowed in this case ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "I do not think so."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"May I know if the Government have no powers to exercise their discretion in the matter of the powers vested in the Superintendent in these matters ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The Superintendent has the power of appointment and Government have no reason to doubt that he has misused it."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—"May I know whether the Superintendent had in his mind any of the communal Government Orders in promoting this man over the head of the other man ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "I do not know what exactly he had in his mind."

Alleged petition to Government against the Publication Assistant, Government Press.

*758-B Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether a petition containing the undoings and undue influence of the Publication Assistant was presented to the Superintendent by Mr. Davis, late Deputy Superintendent, Government Press, in the year 1925 ;

(b) whether the said Mr. Davis asked the Superintendent to hold an enquiry into the allegations made in the petition, and whether the Superintendent refused ; and

(c) whether the services of Mr. Davis were terminated through the evil and undue influence of the Publication Assistant and whether Mr. Davis addressed Government to that effect, enclosing a copy of the said petition ; if so, what action was taken on the said petition and on the petition of Mr. Davis to Government ?

A.—(a) Mr. Davis presented to the Superintendent an anonymous document in which allegations were made against the Publication Assistant.

(b) Yes.

(c) After Mr. Davis' employment had been terminated, he memorialized Government making allegations against the Publication Assistant and enclosing the anonymous document. The anonymous document was ignored by Government and Mr. Davis' memorial was dismissed.

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—"In answer to clause (c) it is said that the memorial making allegations against the Publication Assistant was simply dismissed. Has the Government taken any action on that memorial or merely rejected it ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "The memorial of Mr. Davis was considered and Government thought that there was no necessity to renew the agreement again."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether it is not a fact that there is a general grievance against this Publication Assistant in the Press and whether it has not been brought to the notice of the Government and what action have they taken so far?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :— "I do not know, Sir, whether there is any general impression against him or not."

Alleged receipt of salary from the Government Press Co-operative Society by one Ramanujachari.

*758-C Q.—Dr. B. S. Mallayya : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the present cash-keeper, one Ramanujachari, a life member of the Government Press Party, is receiving a monthly salary of Rs. 30 from the Government Press Employees' Co-operative Society of which the Publication Assistant is the President, without proper sanction being obtained from Government, and if so, why?

A.—The cash-keeper T. A. Ramanujachari is not receiving Rs. 30 per mensem from the Government Press Employees' Co-operative Society without proper sanction.

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" About this Ramanujachari drawing Rs. 30 from the Government Press Party, I should like to know whether he applied to the Government for sanction and whether the Government permitted him to draw it?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :— "Yes. He was permitted."

Appointment of P. Kannayya as foreman of the Telugu section of the Government Press.

*758-D Q.—Dr. B S. Mallayya : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether one P. Kannayya, a prominent member of the Government Press Party, has been appointed as foreman of the Telugu section of the Government Press on the recommendation of the Publication Assistant, overlooking the claims of qualified employees ; and

(b) whether one A. Kannayya, the foreman of the Vernacular department, has been doing the work of the said P. Kannayya, such as maintaining registers, distribution of copies, giving instructions to compositors, etc., as the latter can neither read nor write English?

A.—(a) & (b) Government have no information.

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" The answer says that the Government have no information. I should like to know why?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :— "These are all petty appointments which rest in the hands of the Superintendent, Government Press."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" Is it impossible to get the information when a Member of this House wants it, Sir?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"I have given the reply already."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know, in view of the large number of questions and complaints about these matters, whether the hon. the Home Member is not prepared to get information on this point?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"I am getting information as far as I possibly can."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"On this question, may I know whether he will get the information required?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"I do not think I need get the information."

Alleged promotion of one Dravyaswami as foreman of the Type-foundry department, Government Press.

*758-E Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether one Dravyaswami, a prominent member of the Government Press Party and a junior with no technical qualifications, was promoted to the grade of Rs. 60—4—100 as foreman of the Type-foundry department, overlooking the claims of a qualified senior man in the said department; and

(b) whether he is a relative and friend of the Publication Assistant?

A.—(a) T. M. Dravyaswami was appointed as foreman, Type-foundry section, on Rs. 60—4—100 from 1st August 1926. He has a thorough practical knowledge of type-casting, stereo and electro-typing, punch-cutting and engraving works and is an intelligent worker. The Government have no information whether he is a member of the Government Press Party.

(b) The Government have no information.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA:—"Again in this case also the Government have no information. Is there any use in putting supplementary questions, I should like to know from the hon. the Home Member?"

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know whether the hon. the Home Member is aware of the fact that there is a party known as the Government Press Party?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"Yes, I know."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"If he is aware of it, may I know whether he has got a list of the members that belong to the Government Press Party in so far as they are employees of the Government?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"No, Sir."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know if he is prepared to get such a list?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"I do not think any useful purpose will be served by it."

Alleged renting of the electrician's quarters to the Government Press Party.

*758-F Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government Press quarters purely intended for the electrician of the Government Press is rented for Rs. 5 per mensem to the Government Press Party, whereas the electrician was paying a rent of Rs. 12-8-0 per mensem ; and

(b) if so, why and under what authority ?

A.—(a) The building referred to was formerly required as quarters for the electrician who was paying a rent of Rs. 12-8-0 a month. The electrician asked permission to vacate the quarters and this was sanctioned. The building was then leased at Rs. 5 per mensem to the Government Press Party.

(b) Under the authority of Government, who considered this the most suitable use for the building, which was no longer required for the electrician, and that the rent was reasonable in the circumstances.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know what that part of the building will fetch now if it is let to the outsiders ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is asking for an opinion."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" No, Sir. Government are put to a loss. I should like to know whether the Government realize that they have made a mistake in giving this to the Party when they can easily get Rs. 30 by letting it to outsiders."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" We were receiving Rs. 12-8-0 for it. Because it is a social club, the members of which are employees of the Government Press, the Government now let it for Rs. 5 per mensem "

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Was the hon. Member entertained by this social club ?

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" No, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is not a concern of the Local Government."

Alleged preference shown by the Superintendent, Government Press, in granting leave to members of the Government Press Party.

*759-A Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Superintendent of the Government Press granted casual leave for two days in continuation of the Easter holidays to more than 25 persons of the Government Press Party to go on a pleasure trip to Ootacamund along with Mariabagiam, the Publication Assistant, the President of the Party ;

(b) whether he refused to grant such leave to others who are not members of the Party even for one or two days, for illness, death and other unavoidable circumstances ; and

(c) if so, what those cases are with their respective reasons for refusing the leave since January 1928 ?

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A.—(a) No; the Superintendent granted casual leave to nineteen employees of the Press in continuation of the Easter holidays to go to Ootacamund.

(b) No; leave has not been granted or refused with reference to membership of any association.

(c) There are no such cases.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Does the hon. the Home Member realize the seriousness of the mistake of leaving it to the Superintendent's discretion to give leave or no leave on certificates granted by longstanding registered medical practitioners, and is he aware that a certain employee of the Press died in the Press premises due to the indiscretion of the Superintendent? Is this discretion given to the Superintendents of all other departments? A patient suffering from typhoid fever"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am afraid the hon. Member is giving information."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" I ask the hon. the Home Member whether he is aware of the seriousness of the mistake committed by the Government in giving discretion to the Superintendent in the matter of giving leave or no leave on medical certificates?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I do not think any mistake has been made at all."

Application of rule 14 of the Statutory Rules by Mr. Gilbert in the case of dismissals and suspensions in the Government Press.

*759-B Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the procedure as to the enquiry contemplated in rule 14 of the Statutory Rules has been strictly followed or not by Mr. Gilbert, the Superintendent, Government Press, in cases of dismissals, suspensions, reductions and removals;

(b) if the answer be in the affirmative, the number of cases in which the enquiry under rule 14 of the Statutory Rules was held;

(c) if the answer be in the negative, those cases in which no enquiry was held and the reasons for the same; and

(d) in how many cases, in which no enquiry was held, appeals against the orders of the Superintendent were allowed and in how many they were rejected?

A.—(a), (b), (c) & (d) Whenever an enquiry is necessary under rule 14 of the Statutory Rules, there is an appeal to Government against the punishment awarded. Any person aggrieved has therefore an opportunity of bringing the matter before Government and Government consider that no practical benefit would result from the labour necessary now to obtain the information asked for.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to clause (d) of the question, may I know why the Government have given no answer, or what the answer is? The question is 'in how many cases in which no enquiry was held, appeals against the orders of the Superintendent were allowed and in how many they were rejected?' The answer does not say anything about the particular facts asked for in clause (d). May I ask for the information, Sir?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have stated the general principle. When cases come before the Government, we examine them. There have been cases in which we have passed orders against the decision of the Superintendent of the Government Press."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" The question, Sir, is : 'In how many cases in which no enquiry was held, appeals against the orders of the Superintendent were allowed and in how many they were rejected ?' That question, you will see, is not at all answered in the answer which is consolidated for all the clauses. I am asking whether the Government can now give or whether they want notice for supplying the information as regards the number of cases in which appeals were allowed and the number in which the appeals were rejected ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" If notice is given, I shall certainly supply the information."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask with regard to the answer to clause (*a*) of the question, the reason why no answer has been given at all ? The question is 'whether the procedure as to the enquiry contemplated in rule 14 of the Statutory Rules has been strictly followed in cases of dismissals, suspensions, reductions and removals.' The answer refers to the appeal to the Government There is no answer to the specific question of my hon. Friend from the City as to whether as a matter of fact this procedure is followed by Mr. Gilbert before he takes action in regard to dismissal, suspension, reduction or removal. May I know whether the Government can give the information now or whether they want notice ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I can give the information now. The procedure is followed."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" In every case ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Yes."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know if any appeal has been received by the hon. the Home Member stating that the procedure was not followed and whether an enquiry was held into such an appeal on that particular issue ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" No, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know how many appeals have been filed during the last year ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Notice, Sir."

Dismissals and suspensions by Mr. Gilbert as Superintendent, Government Press.

* 759-C Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(i) to furnish a comparative statement showing

(*a*) the dismissals, suspensions, removals and reductions made by the present Superintendent, Mr. Gilbert, during his period as Superintendent, and by the former Superintendent, Mr. Fisher, and by Mr. Green during his acting period as Superintendent ;

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(*b*) the designation, service and pay of the affected employees with reasons for each such order ;

(*c*) in how many cases the parties affected by the orders of Mr. Gilbert have appealed to Government ; and

(ii) to state whether almost all the orders of the present Superintendent were upheld by the Government ; if so, their respective reasons in each case ?

A.—(i) (*a*), (*b*), (*c*) & (ii) The Government do not consider that the labour involved in collecting the figures asked for would be justified.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" In reply to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) it is stated that 'the Government do not consider that the labour involved in collecting the figures asked for would be justified.' Sir, what Government is this ? Is it the Government of His Majesty the King-Emperor ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will kindly resume his seat."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I enquire whether a statement of these dismissals is not kept at all in the office, for there must be several dismissals, and if such a statement is kept in the office whether it would be placed on the table of this House ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have given the reason in my answer."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Bearing on this question, a resolution was passed in this House, and the Government's reply was 'we do not accept.' Here we ask questions and even pass resolution. But what is the good of it all ? I asked a number of supplementary questions and the Government do not consider. I should like to know from the hon. the Home Member whether this Government is British Government or the Government of Dost Muhammad or Chengiz Khan or Mubarack ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question does not arise out of this."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" In the answer it is stated, 'the labour involved will not be justified.' Why is any new labour necessary ? Are not the statistics already in the office ? "

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know from the hon. the Home Member, in view of the fact that there is so much complaint, whether he does not consider the collection of facts necessary and whether he has declined to collect these figures, because it is inconvenient, either for Mr. Gilbert, the Superintendent, or for the Government ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Mr. Gilbert is no longer the Superintendent of the Government Press."

Alleged disregard of medical certificates for leave produced by P. Muniswami and Rangaswami, machine-minders in the Government Press.

* 759-D *Q.*—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the medical certificates produced by one P. Muniswami and one K. P. Rangaswami, machine-minders, Government Press, Mint

Buildings, from the Rayapuram Hospital were disregarded by the Superintendent, and whether the periods covered by the certificates were treated as absence without leave; and

(b) if so, why?

A.—The Government have no information. The discretion to refuse leave is reserved by rule to the Superintendent, Government Press.

Dr. B. S. Mallayya:—"There again, Sir, in regard to leave, I should like to know what made the Government give him that absolute discretion for granting leave?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"Under the existing rules, heads of departments have got the discretion."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya:—"In the discharge of such discretion, if calamities occur, who is responsible? Is it the Superintendent or the Government?"

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have no power at all if the discretion is misused or proved to be misused?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"If specific instances are brought to my notice, I am prepared to look into them."

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar:—"Does not the hon. the Home Member consider that these are two specific cases brought to the notice of Government? Two men produced medical certificates from certain hospitals and yet leave was not granted. Does the hon. Member think that these two cases are not sufficient? Will the Government at least now, after so many complaints and after specific instances, take the trouble of inquiring into the matter?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"There is no necessity for an enquiry. It is in the discretion of the Superintendent to accept the medical certificate or not."

Police

Proposed creation of posts in the Imperial Cadre in the Police department.

*760-A Q.—Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the scheme of Mr. Cunningham for the re-organization of the City Police provides for the creation of any Imperial Officers' posts either permanently or temporarily;

(b) if so, whether the Government have obtained the sanction of the Secretary of State for the creation of any such Imperial Officers' posts;

(c) whether it is a fact that even for creating temporary posts of an Imperial cadre with the intention of ultimately making the same permanent the Secretary of State has ruled that his sanction is necessary; and

(d) whether the Secretary of State has ruled that every new post created in the Imperial cadre should be listed for the Provincial Police?

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A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Mr. Cunningham's proposals are now under the consideration of the Government. They are not prepared to disclose the details at this stage.

(*c*) The previous sanction of the Secretary of State in Council is necessary to the increase of the cadre of an all-India Service whether permanent or temporary.

(*d*) Additions to the cadre should be accompanied by a corresponding increase in the number of 'listed' posts, until the prescribed number of listed posts (viz., 20 per cent of the superior posts) is reached.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" In the second sentence of the answer to (*a*) and (*b*) it is stated 'The Government are not prepared to disclose the details at this stage.' May I know the reasons why Government are not prepared to answer specific questions as to whether Mr. Cunningham's proposals included or provided for the creation of any Imperial Officers' posts ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" It is still in the confidential stage and is being considered by Government. We have not yet come to any conclusion and after we come to any conclusion it would be possible for us to disclose it.'

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether the hon. the Home Member will give an opportunity to this House before passing final orders, as it may involve a lot of money, to give its views on the matter ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The scheme will be placed before the Finance Committee and will ultimately come before the Legislative Council."

Proposed creation of the post of a Deputy Traffic Commissioner for Madras City.

*760-B Q.—Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal before the Government to create a Deputy Traffic Commissioner for the City of Madras ; if so, by whom the proposal has been made and whether a copy of the proposal will be placed on the table ;

(*b*) whether the Government propose to compare the statistics of motor vehicles, taxis, buses and other vehicles ; motor and hackney licences ; motor and other accidents in the cities of Calcutta, Bombay, Rangoon and Colombo with that of Madras ; if so, whether a copy of statistics will be placed on the table ; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that only a Deputy Superintendent is employed to be in charge of traffic in other cities ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government are now considering certain proposals of the Commissioner of Police for the reorganization of the Madras City Police. They are therefore unable to answer the questions at this stage.

(*c*) The Government believe that an officer of the Indian Police Service of the rank of Superintendent of Police is in charge of Motor Vehicles Department in Rangoon. As regards other cities they have no information.

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Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" In answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) it is stated that the Government are unable to answer the questions at this stage. May I know when they will be able to answer the questions and at what stage ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " After we come to a conclusion."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" May I know, Sir, when will that be ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I cannot say, Sir."

Reorganization of the Madras City Police.

* 760-C Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have passed orders on the recommendations of the Commissioner of Police, Madras, on the reorganization of the City Police ;

(*b*) if not, when they propose to do so ;

(*c*) whether the Commissioner of Police has ever inquired into the question whether the Indian members of the police force in Madras of all ranks are paid a living wage ;

(*d*) if not, whether the Government propose to call upon him to make such an enquiry with a view to submit proposals for raising their salaries to correspond to a living wage ; and

(*e*) if not, why not ?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The proposals are under the consideration of the Government.

(*c*) The Government have no information as to inquiries of the Commissioner of Police on this point.

(*d*) & (*e*) The Government see no reason to suppose that the Commissioner is not capable of taking the initiative in the matter if necessary. At present, the Government see no reason to suppose that the Indian members of the force are, generally speaking, underpaid.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to clause (*c*) of my question, may I know whether, since the receipt of my question by Government, the Government took any steps to ascertain whether the Commissioner of Police has enquired whether the Indian members of the Police force are paid a living wage ; if not, why not ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I have not heard the hon. Member, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" The question is whether the Commissioner of Police ever enquired into the question whether the Indian members of the Police force in Madras are paid a living wage. The answer given is 'The Government have no information as to enquiries of the Commissioner of Police on this point.' I am asking whether, since the receipt of the question by Government, any steps were taken by the Government to find out if the Commissioner of Police has made any enquiry on the lines suggested ? "

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The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" As I have said before, the report is before the Government and we are considering it. If the Government feel that they ought to get information on this matter, we shall certainly do so."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" With reference to the answers to clauses (*d*) and (*e*) of my question, the answer is 'the Government see no reason to suppose that the Indian members of the force are, generally speaking, underpaid.' May I know what are the grounds on which the Government have come to this conclusion that the Indian members are not underpaid? May I know the grounds on which they have come to such conclusion?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" Because we have received no representations to the effect till now."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" Does Government undertake, in case they get representations from Indian members of the police force, to ask the Commissioner of Police to enquire?"

The hon. the President :—" That is a hypothetical question."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether the Police force threatened to strike some time back if their pay was not increased?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—I am not aware of it."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" May I know, Sir, if the subordinate members of the police staff are permitted to make representations in their collective capacity?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I want notice, Sir."

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—" In the answer it is stated that the Government see no reason to suppose that the Indian members of the force are generally speaking, underpaid. Have they come to that conclusion after carefully examining the question or is it simply their supposition?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" It is not a supposition, but a matter of fact."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" May I know, Sir, on what basis that 'matter of fact' is based, apart from the absence of representation?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" Taking into consideration what salary we give to such men in other services."

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—" Does Government seriously consider that the pay of the ordinary constable or head constable is sufficient or a living wage under present conditions?"

The hon. the President :—" It has been answered."

Proposals for the reorganization of the Madras City Police.

*760-D *Q.*—Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the reorganization proposals of the Commissioner of Police are calculated to relieve the Commissioner of all direct charge of every department now under him and of a good deal of traffic work; and

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(b) whether it is one of the proposals before the Government that the Commissioner need not be paid any special allowances for inspection of motor buses ?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government are not prepared to disclose at present the details of the proposals now under their consideration.

Present pay of Sergeants and Sub-Inspectors.

* 760-E Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what was the pay recommended by the Police Commission of 1902 for Sergeants and Sub-Inspectors in Madras and other places ;

(b) what is the pay that they now actually draw ; and

(c) whether the minimum pay of the Sub-Inspectors is less than what was fixed in 1902 ?

A.—(a) The Police Commission of 1902–03 recommended pay for Sergeants and Sub-Inspectors as follows :—

Sergeants—Rs. 80—5/2—110 in Madras and Rs. 80, 90, 100 in the mufassal.

Sub-Inspectors—Rs. 75, 100, 125 in Madras and Rs. 50, 60, 70, 80 in the mufassal.

(b)

Madras City.	Mufassal.
Sergeants.	
Rs. 110, $122\frac{1}{2}$, 135 and 1 on Rs. 145	Rs. 100, $112\frac{1}{2}$, 125
Sub-Inspectors.	
Rs. 85, 100, 125, 135, 150.	Rs. 60, 75, 100, 110, 125.

(c) No.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" Do the Government consider that the duties of sergeants are more onerous than those of Sub-Inspectors ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" They have different duties to discharge."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know how they are different ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I want notice in order to give exact details of their work."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to say whether the sergeants come on duty only after sun-set and before sun-rise ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" No, Sir."

Proposed pay of Sergeants and Sub-Inspectors.

* 760-F Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state what is the proposed pay for Sergeants and Sub-Inspectors under the contemplated scheme of Mr. Cunningham for the mufassal and for the City ?

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A.—Mr. Cunningham's proposals are under the consideration of the Government. They are not prepared to disclose the details at this stage.

Transfer to the mufassal of Sub-Inspectors of the City Police.

* 760-G *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Commissioner of Police has recommended the transfer to the mufassal of several Sub-Inspectors of the City Police;

(*b*) whether they have been recruited under the City Police Act for service in the City;

(*c*) whether they are on a different scale of pay as compared with that of the mufassal Sub-Inspectors;

(*d*) whether any of these Sub-Inspectors have been recommended for transfer as a punishment on any specific charge; and

(*e*) if not, how the Government justify under the Fundamental Rules the reduction in their pay?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*d*) The Government have no information; they have called for it.

(*c*) The pay of each grade of City Sub-Inspector of Police has been fixed at Rs. 25 more than that of the corresponding grade of mufassal Sub-Inspector.

(*e*) The answer to this clause depends on the information called for in respect of clause (*d*).

Selection of Sub-Inspectors of Police by the Commissioner.

* 760-H *Q.*—Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that out of 21 candidates recently selected by the Commissioner of Police, Madras, for the posts of Sub-Inspectors of Police, nine non-Brahmans, six Brahmans, two Christians, three members of depressed class and one Muslim have been taken;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that to give its due share to every community, the Government have directed in their G.O. Mis. No. 747, dated 3rd September 1928, that future recruitment in the services shall be made in the following proportion and order (i.e.), out of every twelve posts, five non-Brahmans (Hindus), two Brahmans, two Muhammadans, two Anglo-Indians and Christians including Europeans and one from the others (including depressed class);

(*c*) if the answer to the above is in the affirmative, why only one Muslim was selected for the Sub-Inspector's post by the Commissioner of Police; and

(*d*) whether, in view of this apparent injustice done to the Muslims, the Government propose to hold an enquiry into the matter and redress the grievances?

A.—(*a*) The Government are not aware whether or no these figures are correct. If the hon. Member desires it the information he gives in his question will be verified.

(*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) G.O. No. 747, Public, dated 3rd September 1928, does not refer to recruitment for the Madras Police Service. The rules for that service have not yet been issued.

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—" In the answer it is stated that the 'Government are not aware whether or no these figures are correct'. Will they care to ascertain whether these figures are correct now at least ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I shall enquire."

Revision of the pay of police constables in the City.

*761-A *Q.*—Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that most of the sergeants are not literate and cannot even properly write and read English ;

(*b*) whether the Government are aware that in cities like Colombo, Shanghai, Hongkong and Bombay with a large European population, Indian ex-Military officers are appointed as sergeants on a lesser pay than here, without prejudice to efficiency or success ;

(*c*) if so, why the same system is not followed in Madras ;

(*d*) whether Mr. Cunningham's contemplated scheme of the revision of pay of the European subordinates alone has created considerable discontent amongst Indian constabulary and other subordinate officers ;

(*e*) whether the constables have been agitating for more pay during the last many years and especially in 1927 and whether they threatened even to strike ; and

(*f*) whether since these reorganization proposals were published in a local paper a persistent and anonymous propaganda by letters and posters and post cards has been carried on by the constabulary not to receive their pay and finally to strike till the question of their pay is considered before the question of the sergeants' pay is decided ?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) & (*c*) The Government have no information regarding Shanghai, Colombo or Hongkong. In Bombay there is a force of 60 Sergeants employed on duties similar to those of the Sergeants in Madras.

(*d*) The hon. Member is in error in suggesting that the European subordinates alone would benefit under the Commissioner's proposals. The Government are not aware of any discontent amongst the constabulary or other police subordinates in the City.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) There have been some attempts to undermine the loyalty of the force but there is no information that these letters, etc., emanated from members of the force.

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*d*) of this question, may I know whether the Indian subordinates are likely to benefit by these proposals and if so to what extent ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I am unable to disclose at this stage what the proposals are, since they are under the consideration of Government."

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Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" With reference to the answer to clause (d) of the question, may I know whether the Government have allowed any channel for the expression of discontent of the constabulary or police subordinates in the city?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Notice, Sir."

Alleged threatening of police constables agitating for revision of pay.

*761-B Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that orders have been issued by the superior police officers especially in the City of Madras threatening with instant dismissal those constables who agitate for revision of pay ;

(b) whether such notices have been posted on the notice boards of each police station ; and

(c) whether a constable in Vepery division has been dismissed as he was suspected of having expressed his grievance to an important Political Leader?

A.—(a) No.
(b) No.
(c) No.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether any constable has been dismissed at all in the Vepery division recently?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Notice."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether there is any charge against any constable that he has given information to an important political leader?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Notice, Sir."

Proposed creation of the post of a Coroner for Madras City.

*762-A Q.—Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is proposed to employ a Coroner for the City of Madras ;

(b) if so, on what salary and on what terms ; and

(c) what will be the recurring and non-recurring expenditure involved in the creation of such an office?

A.—(a) No.
(b) & (c) Do not arise.

Statistics of inquests in Calcutta, Bombay and Rangoon.

*762-B Q.—Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government have statistics of inquests in the cities of Calcutta, Bombay and Rangoon and place the same on the table?

A.—The Government have no information.

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—" In the answer it is stated that Government have no information. Will the Government at least now call for the information, Sir."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :— " I shall consider the suggestion."

Acting appointments in the selection grade to officers of the Provincial Police Service.

*763-A Q.—Mr. K. R. Karant : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) why the concession of giving acting appointments in the selection grade to the officers of the Provincial Police Service is not shown when it is within the power of the Local Government to do so ; and

(b) whether the Government propose to take action in this direction ?

A.—(a) & (b) It is not within the power of the Local Government to permit acting appointments in the selection grade of the Provincial Police Service.

Mr. K. R. Karant :—" With reference to the answer given, may I ask in whose power it is to permit acting appointments in the selection grade of the Provincial Police Service ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" It is a power vested in the Government of India."

Listing of posts of District Superintendents of Police.

*763-B Q.—Mr. K. R. Karant : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what progress has been made in the listing of District Superintendents of Police's posts for the Deputy Superintendents of Police and whether any programme has been drawn up ; and

(b) whether the Lee Commission recommended the increase of these posts by four and whether any post has been listed in pursuance of the said recommendation ?

A.—(a) & (b) The Lee Commission's recommendation was in effect to raise the number of listed posts by three to a total of eight posts. Five officers have already been promoted from the Provincial Police Service. No programme has been drawn up.

Listing of posts of Deputy Superintendents of Police.

*763-C Q.—Mr. K. R. Karant : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government during the late Law Member's time promised the deputation of the Deputy Superintendents of Police that they would take steps immediately for the listing of District Superintendents of Police's posts for Deputy Superintendents of Police and whether any action has been taken since then ;

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(b) whether the Government of India in December 1927 communicated to the Local Governments the order of the Secretary of State listing more posts of District Superintendents of Police for Deputy Superintendents of Police, and whether the Government will place a copy of the order on the Council Table ;

(c) whether any effect has been given to this order ; and

(d) if not, when and how the Government propose to give effect to the same ?

A.—(a) The Government are not aware of any such promise.
(b) No.
(c) & (d) Do not arise.

Vacancies in the selection grade appointments in the Provincial Police Service.

* 763-D Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether acting appointments are made to posts in the selection grade in the Imperial Police;

(b) whether such appointments are also made to posts in the selection grade in the Provincial Police ; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the three selection grade appointments in the Provincial Police are virtually vacant in view of the fact that the officers in the selection grade always act as District Superintendents of Police ?

A.—(a) Yes.
(b) No.
(c) No.

Appointment of Deputy Superintendents of Police.

* 763-E Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Messrs. Srinivasa Sastri, Nargunam, Walton and Venkataramanujam have been recently appointed Deputy Superintendents of Police ;

(b) whether these officers were tried as Deputy Superintendents of Police during the time of Messrs. Thomas and Armitage and reverted ; if so, on what grounds ;

(c) whether the Government have called for and perused the papers ordering their reversions before re-appointing them ; and

(d) whether there are any other Deputy Superintendents of Police who have been continuously acting for the last four or five years and if so, whether their claims will be taken into consideration in preference to these three gentlemen ?

A.—(a) Yes.
(b) & (c) The Government cannot answer the questions. Recommendation rolls are strictly confidential.
(d) (1) Yes.
(2) Government cannot promise now to give a preference to one particular man over another.

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Vacancy in the selection grade in the Police service.

*763-F Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that promotions to the selection grade in the Imperial Police Service are made even though the vacancy is a very short one;

(b) whether it is a fact that a selection grade vacancy in the Provincial Police has been kept vacant for over two years, and why;

(c) whether any such vacancy has been allowed to exist in any other Provincial service for such a period;

(d) whether a definite recommendation was made by Mr. Armitage in 1926 to fill up this vacancy; and

(e) whether there is any discontentment among the Senior Deputy Superintendents of Police by keeping vacant a permanent vacancy in the selection grade?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes, because the Local Government have no power under Fundamental Rule 30 to make acting appointments in the selection grade.

(c) This will be answered after ascertaining the facts.

(d) The Government must decline to answer this question; recommendation rolls are strictly confidential.

(e) The Government are not aware of any discontent among the senior Deputy Superintendents of Police.

Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"I wish to ask with reference to the answer to clause (b) whether this Government have moved the Government of India to make these appointments for the vacancies, and if not, why not?"

The hon Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I think the Government did so, and the Government of India turned down our proposal."

Opening of a Police outpost at Neiveli.

*764 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the residents of Neiveli and other villages in the Tiruvallur taluk in the Chingleput district have petitioned the Inspector-General of Police and the District Superintendent of Police, Chingleput, to put up a Police outpost at Neiveli;

(b) whether the distance between Neiveli and Pennalur Pettai where the Police Station is situated is about 17 miles; and

(c) whether the Government will consider the advisability of opening a Police outpost at Neiveli?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The distance is about 11 miles.

(c) They do not see any justification for an outpost at Neiveli.

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Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—" Will the Government at least now consider the advisability of including this village under the Tiruvallur police sub-station, considering the fact that it is nearer to Tiruvallur than to Pennalur Pettai ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :— " I want notice, Sir."

Military

Notification regarding messing allowance to military officers.

*765 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state with reference to the notification in the Army department at pages 1414–1419 of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 25th September 1928, whether the messing allowance of 10 annas per month mentioned on page 1418 in Schedule III—Provincial Units, for junior officers, non-commissioned officers and men is correct or whether there is any error in the republication of the notification?

A.—There is no error in the republication of the notification.

Pensions

Payment of pensions to pensioners in Trichinopoly district.

*766 Q.—Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that till August 1928 the pensioners in the Trichinopoly district were paid their pensions on the 1st or 2nd of every month ;

(*b*) whether the Collector of the district has issued an order to commence payment of pensions only from the 4th of every month ;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that a similar trouble arose regarding the payment of pensions to the pensioners in that district in 1924, and whether the Government then passed an order cancelling the then Collector's order ; and

(*d*) whether the Government will be pleased to pass a similar order at present also and, if not, why ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government are not aware whether the facts are as suggested. A report has been called for.

(*c*) & (*d*) A representation was made to the Government in November 1923 in connexion with the dates of payment of pension in the Trichinopoly sub-treasury. After obtaining a report on the subject, the Government passed orders allowing the Collector to use his discretion in the matter.

Mr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*c*), will the Government be pleased to cancel the orders allowing the Collector to use his discretion in the matter of payment of pensions, having regard to the fact that the pensioners are old ? "

The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir :—" The Government do not propose to withdraw discretion vested in an officer unless it can be shown that he has abused it."

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether the Government will be pleased to place the copy of the report when it is received on the table of this House ? "

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I can give the information now. There is a division of pensioners and those pensioners who are drawing Rs. 10 or less, must be paid on the 2nd or the 3rd working day, and those getting above Rs. 10 on the 4th and 5th working days."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know the reason why this is being done ? "

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" In order to avoid congestion in the treasury ; when all pensioners come on the same day, many have to go away without having to draw their pension. As it was thought to be a convenient arrangement, this procedure was adopted."

Mr. M. V. GANGADHARA SIVA :—" May I know whether the Government will be pleased at least to direct that the pensioners are paid on the 2nd or 3rd of the month ? "

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I am afraid, it is impossible. As the staff is limited, and the work is heavy if the work is not divided, it simply means that pensioners will come and have to go away without getting their pension. If the work is spread over four or five days, some pensioners will be paid on the earlier days and others subsequently."

Railways

Alleged inconveniences of third-class lady passengers in Bengal and Nagpore and other railways.

*767-A Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received complaints about the difficulty and inconvenience experienced by the lady passengers specially in third-class in the Bengal and Nagpur Railway, Madras and Southern Mahratta and South Indian Railway Companies in purchasing tickets along with men ;

(b) whether it is a fact that ladies in many cases are being cheated by others as they are not themselves able to purchase tickets ;

(c) whether it is a fact that tickets are sold just a few minutes before the arrival of the train both for men and women at the same place and generally by one clerk ; and

(d) whether the Government have taken any action in the matter by addressing the Railway Board ?

A.—The Government have not received any complaints of the kind referred to. The matter is one which the hon. Member might bring to the notice of the Local Advisory Committees of the Railways concerned.

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Alleged inconveniences due to the modifications in Guntakal Railway station.

*767-B Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received complaints about the inconveniences to the travelling public caused by the modifications carried out at the Guntakal station, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, and if not, whether they will cause an enquiry to be made;

(b) whether there is any waiting shed or water tap near the present booking office;

(c) whether the booking office will be provided on the overbridge as in Chalapur and if not, why not;

(d) whether the trains arriving at and starting from the stations are fully under covered platforms and if not, what those trains are which are not so;

(e) the number of platforms at the station and whether each is provided with an Indian refreshment stall; and

(f) whether the overbridge is far off from the platforms to the inconvenience of the travelling public?

A.—The Government have not received any complaints about the inconveniences referred to. The matter is one which the hon. Member might well bring to the notice of the Local Advisory Committee of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway.

Supply of drinking water at Nandyal railway station.

*767-C Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Railway station of Nandyal in the Kurnool district was hitherto served by a copious supply of water pumped from the Kundu river and supplied through a pipe;

(b) whether it is a fact that that practice has been now discontinued;

(c) why it was so discontinued;

(d) whether at present water is supplied to the passengers at train time by a water-carrier from whom certain classes may not accept water; and

(e) whether any further scheme for a free and copious supply of water as usual through a pipe is under contemplation?

A.—The Government have no information. The matter is one which the hon. Member might bring to the notice of the Local Advisory Committee of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway.

Alleged inordinate delays in the suburban train service.

*768 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received complaints about the inordinate delays in the suburban train service between Madras Beach and Pallavaram and the consequent inconveniences to the travelling public; and

(b) what steps they propose to take to set aright the defective service?

A.—(a) No.

(b) A copy of the interpellation will be forwarded to the Agent, South Indian Railway.

Travelling Allowance Rules

Amendment to rule 97 of the Travelling Allowance Rules.

*769 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state with reference to G.O. No. 531, Finance, dated 3rd August 1928, regarding amendment to Travelling Allowance Rules—

(*a*) the reasons for deleting the old rule 97-A, inserting the new rule 96-A and adding the new paragraph at the end of 97 (*a*); and

(*b*) the financial effect of these changes?

A.—(*a*) The old rule provided for expenses only in cases where a railway journey was involved. The Government considered that the same rule should apply to other journeys also. They have therefore issued the new rule 96-A.

(*b*) The Government have not sufficient experience of the new rules to estimate their financial effect.

Civil Justice

Appointment of an additional Sub-Judge in South Arcot.

*770 Q.—Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any report has been received from the High Court with regard to the congestion of work in the Sub-Court and District Court, South Arcot; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to appoint an additional Sub-Judge to relieve the same and if so, when?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The question of appointing an Additional Sub-Judge to the Sub-Court, Cuddalore, is under the consideration of Government.

Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar:—"May I know from the hon. the Law Member whether since this answer was given, any further orders were passed by Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"After this answer was framed, Government passed an order for the appointment of an additional Sub-Judge in Cuddalore from 1st December."

Jails

Release of Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon.

*771-A Q.—Mr. K. Madhavan Nayar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how long Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon has been in the jail now;

(*b*) whether the Government propose to consider the question of his release;

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(c) whether he thinks that the situation in Malabar now is such as to make the presence of Mr. Narayana Menon dangerous; if so, what are the facts that warrant it;

(d) whether the Government are prepared to redeem the promise it made through its late Law Member that it will sympathetically consider the question of his release if two of his friends give an undertaking as suggested by the Government;

(e) whether, if section 401 of the Criminal Procedure Code stands in the way of the Government redeeming the said pledge, Government was not aware of that section when the promise was made; and

(f) whether the Government or His Excellency the Governor has no power to release a convicted person irrespective and independently of section 401, Criminal Procedure Code; and if they have, why such powers are not exercised in favour of Mr. Narayana Menon?

A—(a) Since 25th September 1922.

(b) Yes; if he gives the undertaking which he was required to give.

(c) Mr. Narayana Menon is not a State prisoner, but one convicted by a court of law. So, his release does not depend entirely on the conditions of Malabar.

(d) Yes; if Mr. Narayana Menon gives the undertaking required by Government.

(e) Government were aware of the section.

(f) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The second part does not arise.

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR:—"In answer to (d) did not the late Law Member make this House understand that no undertaking from Mr. Narayana Menon is necessary but that it is enough if two of his friends gave the undertaking?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Are not the Government aware that under the Criminal Procedure Code they cannot release a prisoner without any condition?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Government have power."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA:—"Did not Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar put two questions to the then Law Member and elicit the information that Mr. Narayana Menon would be released on the surety of two of his friends?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is not admissible."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I know Sir, whether, as at present advised, the Government will not consider the question of the release of Mr. Narayana Menon unless he himself gives an undertaking as required by the Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"That is so."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR:—"If as a matter of fact the late Law Member had given an assurance that Government would release Mr Narayana Menon on the surety of two of his friends, may I know if the Government will release him now if two of his friends stand as surety?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I am not prepared to answer a hypothetical question."

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I know why the Government refuse to release Mr. Narayana Menon without an undertaking from himself?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR .—"Because Government think that an undertaking from him is necessary."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Sir I am asking for the reasons."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"According to the Criminal Procedure Code Government can, with or without a condition release a prisoner, and in the present case they consider that they cannot release him unconditionally."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—"May I know whether this Government is prepared to redeem its pledges?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Government are not aware of any pledges given."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—"May I know what makes the Government vindictive?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"They are not at all vindictive."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I know the reason why the Government should insist on one set of conditions alone when there is another set of conditions?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Because my friend must be aware that the Criminal Procedure Code contemplates that the undertaking must be given by the prisoner himself."

Health of Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon.

*771-B Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon who is now confined in the Penitentiary had to undergo a serious operation in the throat;

(b) whether his health is bad and gives room for anxiety; and

(c) whether he has further decreased in weight recently?

A.—(a) No. He had granular Pharyngitis and these granules were cauterized.

(b) His health is excellent and there is no cause for anxiety.

(c) No. On the other hand he is gaining in weight. His weight on the 15th January 1928 was 112 lb. and his weight on 21st October 1928 was 128 lb.

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"May I know the weight of Mr. Narayana Menon when he was admitted into the jail?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"If my hon. friend refers to 22nd September 1922, I want notice."

Spinning of yarn in jails.

*772 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of men and women confined in jails during last year;

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(b) the number of men and women in jails employed in hand-spinning last year;

(c) the quantity of yarn that is ordinarily required for jail purposes if the whole of the cloth required is made of this yarn; and

(d) how much of it is now prepared in the jails themselves?

A.—(a) The total number of men and women confined in jails at the close of last year was 18,229—

Men	17,943
Women	286

(b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1663 given at the meeting of 2nd March 1928.

(c) The quantity of yarn that is ordinarily required for jail purposes is roughly 350,000 lb. of twist of different counts, e.g., 6's, 10's, 2/20's, $8\frac{1}{2}$'s, etc.

(d) Nil.

Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—"May I know Sir, whether the Government will see that all the yarn required for the jails is prepared in the jails themselves?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"I shall consider whether it is possible."

Revision of the Jail Manual.

*773 Q.—Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Jail Manual has been revised and brought up to date; and

(b) when the Manual is likely to be published?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The revised Manual is now being printed in the Government Press.

Marine

Exports and imports at Cuddalore O.T. and Porto Novo.

*774 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that cargo boats and steamers usually call at or near Cuddalore O.T. and Porto Novo either for import or export of goods;

(b) if so, what is the annual value and tonnage of the exports or imports at the aforesaid ports and what is the nature of the goods so imported or exported;

(c) whether it was at any time contemplated to make Porto Novo a harbour for exporting and importing cargo and, if so, whether he will place on the table the details of the scheme contemplated and copies of the correspondence, if any, on this subject;

(d) whether the idea to make Porto Novo a harbour for the calling of cargo boats and steamers is still under the consideration of the Government or kept in abeyance or abandoned;

(e) whether the Government will reinvestigate into the question of making Porto Novo a harbour and undertake necessary measures to develop the same into a suitable harbour ; and

(f) whether the merchant community at Porto Novo have at any time made representation to the Government to make Porto Novo a harbour and, if so, what action the Government have taken on their representations ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The information is contained in the Annual Statement of the Seaborne Trade and Navigation published by the Customs Department.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise in view of the answer to the previous question.

(e) No.

(f) No.

Education

Alleged representation from the Andhra University regarding State scholarships for Post-graduate studies in England.

*775 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representation has been made by the Andhra University that one of the two State scholarships for Post-graduate studies in England awarded on the recommendation of the Madras and Andhra Universities should be transferred to the administration of the Andhra University ; and

(b) if so, what the Government have proposed to do in the matter ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The question is under consideration.

Reorganization of the Subordinate Educational Service.

*776 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the proposed scheme for the reorganization of the Subordinate Educational Service in the province is ready, and if so, whether the same will be placed on the table ; and

(b) if not, when the scheme will be ready, and what are the reasons for the delay ?

A.—(a) & (b) Proposals for the reorganization of the Subordinate Educational Service are now under the consideration of the Government. The question of placing them on the table of the House will be considered when final orders are passed.

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Number of headmasters of Government high schools in the Provincial cadre.

*777 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state how many of the headmasters of the Government high schools, both Muslim and non-Muslim, are in the Provincial cadre and how many among them are Muslims and in what scale of pay?

A.—By the expression 'provincial cadre' the hon. Member apparently refers to the cadre of the Madras Educational Service. Six posts of headmasters of Government high schools and school departments of Government colleges are included in the above cadre. One of these posts is held by a Muslim. The pay of officers of this cadre is Rs. 250—25—500 (efficiency bar)—50—800.

Local Boards

Repairs to the road between Sanavasapur and Tekkalakota.

*778 Q.—Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the major part of the road between Sanavasapur and Tekkalakota on the Bellary-Sirugappa road is in a very bad condition and unfit for motor traffic;

(b) whether there are more than half-a-dozen buses plying on that road; and

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps in the interests of safety to the travelling public to have this road mended and repaired immediately?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) It is the duty of the District Board to restore the road to a satisfactory condition and it has been asked to take early steps to do so.

Alleged bad condition of roads under Raya and Bella channels in Hospet taluk.

*779 Q.—Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government are aware that

(i) the roads in the wet land areas under Raya and Bella channels in Hospet taluk are quite unfit for use during a great part of the year and especially during the rainy seasons; and

(ii) the road from Hospet Railway station to Basavanadurg through Belogodu and the road from Chitwadgi to Ippethevuru and the Hosur road are especially bad?

A.—The Government have no information.

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Municipal Councils

Postponement of the election of Chairman to Tenali municipality.

*780 Q.—Mr. P. ANJANEYULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Government have passed orders approving of the postponement of the election of Chairman, Tenali municipality, till the 1st of November whereas the present Chairman vacates office by the 6th of October;

(*b*) if the answer to the above question is in the affirmative, at whose request this order was passed, and whether the Tenali Municipal Council is in favour of the postponement; and

(*c*) what prompted him to pass such orders?

A.—(*a*) The Government passed no orders in the matter, but stated that they had no objection to the postponement proposed by the outgoing Chairman which would have enabled five newly elected members whose membership only dates from the 1st November an opportunity of participating in the election.

(*b*) & (*c*) A majority of the members of the Tenali Municipal Council were in favour of the postponement.

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU:—"As regards the answer to clause (*a*), may I know Sir, whether the proposal of the outgoing Chairman to postpone the election to the 1st November had the support of any resolution of the Council at the time?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"No, Sir."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU:—"As regards (*b*) & (*c*), may I know whether the proposal emanated from the outgoing Chairman?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Yes, Sir."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU:—"May I know whether the Government accept that statement to be correct?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Government have reason to believe it to be correct."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU:—"May I know whether the Government have at least tried to ascertain whether it is correct?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Government have taken steps and found that it is correct."

Time granted for objections to draft rules for the preparation of electoral rolls for municipalities and union boards.

*781 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state in regard to the six weeks' time granted for objections to the draft rules for the preparation of electoral rolls for municipalities and union boards, respectively, in G.Os. No. 3434, L. & M., dated 22nd August 1928 and No. 3437, L. & M., of the same date, whether it is counted from the date of its publication in English in the *Fort St. George Gazette* or from the date of its publication in the vernacular in the District Gazette?

A.—Section 200 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and section 305 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, lay down that drafts of rules shall be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, and that such drafts shall not be further proceeded with until six weeks after such publication or until such later date as the Local Government may appoint. The period of six weeks will run from the date of publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette.*

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know whether the Government will reconsider the question and modify the rules so as to give an opportunity for the notifications being published in the district gazettes in proper time ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I shall consider the suggestion."

Excise

Details regarding the anti-drink propaganda by Government.

*782 *Q.*—Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) what steps he has so far taken from the time of his assumption of his office in the matter of giving effect to the Council's resolution of introducing prohibition in 20 years ;

(*b*) whether the Government have formulated detailed proposals regarding the anti-drink propaganda work, and if so, what they are ;

(*c*) if not, how long the Government will take to arrive at all those details ;

(*d*) whether the Government have allotted any funds for the propaganda work ; if so, how much ; if not, why not ;

(*e*) how many shops of toddy and liquor respectively districtwar have been closed in the years from 1922 to 1928, and for what reasons, if any ;

(*f*) how many such shops were closed as they could not be sold in auction ;

(*g*) (1) what is the personnel of the Excise Advisory Committee ; (2) whether they have submitted any report and whether it is unanimous ; if not, who are the dissenting members ; and (3) whether the Government are now in a position to place on the table of the House the proposals of the Committee with that of the dissenting members ; if not, why not ;

(*h*) how many municipalities and local boards have since passed and forwarded to Government resolutions advocating total prohibition in their local areas and which they are ; and

(*i*) what action has been taken by the Government to give effect to such resolutions ?

A.—(*a*), (*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) The hon. Member is referred to the answers to clause (*a*) of question No. 76 and to question No. 565 given at the meetings of the Legislative Council held on 4th September 1928 and 12th October 1928, respectively.

(*e*) & (*f*) The hon. Member is referred to statement B in the Excise Administration reports which have been published. The Government have no information beyond that contained in these statements and have called for a report.

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(g) (1) The following is the personnel of the Excise Advisory Committee :—

President.

(1) The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar, Minister for Public Health.

Members.

(2) M.R.Ry. S. N. Dorai Raja Avargal, M.L.C.
(3) „ K. Krishnan Avargal, M.L.C.
(4) „ Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu Garu, M.L.C.
(5) „ Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan Avargal, M.L.C.
(6) „ Daniel Thomas Avargal, M.L.C.
(7) „ K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar Avargal, M.L.C.
(8) Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razack Sahib Bahadur, M.L.C.
(9) J. A. Davis, Esq., M.L.C.
(10) W. O. Wright, Esq., M.L.C.

(2) & (3) The Excise Advisory Committee has not submitted any report.

(h) & (i) The Government have not received any such resolutions.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"With reference to the answer to clauses (a), (b) and (c) I find that the answer is that the subject is still under consideration. I want to know . . . "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Questions to test the accuracy of answers given cannot be treated as supplementary questions."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Sir, I am asking the Government to throw some light on the answer already given. I want to know what steps the Government propose to take in the matter."

Thn hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"The answer has been given on a former occasion."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"May I know whether several municipal and local boards have not passed resolutions that the shops should be altogether removed from their limits."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"Government have not received any such resolution."

Location of arrack shops at Nallagatla, Battulur and Erraguntla.

*783 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) when the arrack shops at Nallagatla, Battulur and Erraguntla of the Sirvel taluk of the Kurnool district were opened ;

(b) whether these villages are situated on the same road namely on the Chittoor-Kurnool road ; and

(c) what the distance from Nallagatla to Battulur and from Battulur to Erraguntla is ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) A report has been called for.

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Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know when the hon. the Minister called for the report ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Soon after the receipt of the question from the Council office."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" Will he be pleased to place it on the table of the House when he receives it ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I have no objection."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" Do the Government mean to advocate total prohibition or advocate the removal of shops from the area ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Government have not received any resolutions that any shops from the areas should be removed."

Closing of liquor shops in South Arcot district.

* 784 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the excise revenue realized by Government from South Arcot district during the past five years ;

(b) the number of liquor and toddy shops in this district during each of those five years ;

(c) the number of trees licensed for tapping during the said period ;

(d) the approximate amount of money spent on drink by people in the said period ; and

(e) the steps, if any, taken by the Government to reduce the drink evil in that district during the said period?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the Annual Excise Administration Reports of the past five years which have been published.

(c) Figures showing the number of trees licensed in the district for tapping during the past five years are given below :—

Year.	Cocoanuts.	Palmyras.	Dates.
1923–24	49,382	13,258	8,600
1924–25	47,655	13,305	8,987
1925–26	52,179	12,526	8,144
1926–27	50,622	12,418	9,355
1927–28	48,402	13,233	8,449

(d) The Government have not the information.

(e) The measures specially applicable to South Arcot are :—

(1) The issue strength of country spirits was from 1st April 1925, reduced from 35° u.p. to 38° u.p. throughout the district except in the tracts adjoining French territory.

(2) From 1st April 1927, the duty on arrack issued to certain shops of the Manjakuppam range in this district was raised from Rs. 6–4–0 to Rs. 8–13–6 per proof gallon

(3) The limit of private possession of country spirits without licence was reduced from 8 to 6 drams from 1st April 1925 and from 1st April 1928, the limit was further reduced to 4 drams in all the municipalities of the district.

(4) The total number of licences for the sale of liquor was reduced from 887 in 1922–23 to 823 in 1927–28.

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Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"Will the hon. the Minister consider the advisability of supplying the questioner with the information asked for in clause (*b*) ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"The answer sought for will be found in the Annual Excise Administration Report. Government will have no difficulty in giving it."

Agriculture

Stability of the Mysore Agricultural Dairy Farm Company, Limited.

*785 *Q.*—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the Government have any information as to the solvency, reliability, stability or otherwise of the Mysore Agricultural Dairy Farm Company, Limited, and if so, what it is ?

A.—The Government have no information.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"May I know whether the hon. the Minister is aware that this Dairy company is collecting a large sum of money by way of shares and deposits from villagers ?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"I am not aware of it."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"In the interests of the people who are now fleeced thus will he please obtain the information ?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"I shall consider."

Starting of a demonstration farm for growing sugarcane in Bellary district.

*786 *Q.*—Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Director of Agriculture on his last visit to the wet land areas in the Bellary district promised to consider the question of taking over for lease an acre of wet land and growing sugarcane and making jaggery at Government expense by Government men as demonstration to the ryots ; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to hasten the starting of such a demonstration ?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) These demonstration areas were duly started at Chitwadigi and Kampli. The former was a failure due to climatic conditions. The plot immediately after planting had taken place was badly affected by very heavy rains and stagnation of water. The canes never recovered from this set back and growth was poor throughout. Despite this the best that could be done was done and a demonstration of good jaggery making was given.

The demonstration at Kampli, however, was a complete success.

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Fisheries

Inspectors and Petty Yard officers in the Fisheries Department on the West Coast.

*787 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of inspectors, sub-inspectors, and petty yard officers employed at present in the Fisheries Department on the West Coast and the communities to which they belong;

(b) whether efforts have ever been made to recruit these officers from among the fisherfolk community;

(c) whether there are any orders of Government requiring the appointing authorities to give preference to candidates belonging to the fishermen community; and

(d) if the answer to (c) is in the negative, whether the Government propose to issue such orders?

A.—(a) A statement [a] furnishing the required information is appended.

(b) & (c) Preference is always given to applicants from the fishermen and other backward classes.

(d) They do not propose to issue any special orders in view of the answer to clauses (b) and (c) above.

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" May I know whether the Government are aware that there are sufficient number of qualified men among the fishermen community to fill the posts of inspectors, sub-inspectors and petty yard officers in the Fisheries Department?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" In view of the fact that only a small proportion of these posts is held by these men will the Government be pleased to issue a special order and see that qualified men of this community are given preference in filling up vacancies in these posts in future?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—" Yes. Preference will be given to qualified men from the community."

Industries

Number and location of trade schools in this Presidency.

*788 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any trades schools in this Presidency; and

(b) if so, the number and the locality where each is working?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) One at Madras.

Mr. K. V. R. Swami:—" May I know whether the Government propose to start any other trades school anywhere in the Presidency?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—" Yes, we intend to start one more at Mangalore."

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 361 infra.

Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—" May I know whether they are not going to start one in the Telugu districts ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" We have no intention."

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—" Do the Government consider in all their magnanimity and generosity that one more trades school is sufficient for the whole Presidency ?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" It is proposed as a trial."

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have any scheme for starting a large number of such trades schools in different parts of the Presidency ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" We have a scheme under consideration."

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—" May I know when they propose to open them ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" When funds permit."

Mr. K. R. Karant :—" When was the school at Mangalore opened ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" Not yet opened."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—" Is the Trades School in Madras successful or unsuccessful ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" Successful."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" What happened to the leather trades school which was there ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" It is still there."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" Is the leather school . . ."

The hon. the President :—" We are now dealing with the trades school."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" Yes, Sir, it is a leather trades school. (Laughter.) Is this successful or not ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" No."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" May I know whether any provision has been made in the coming budget for such trades schools to be established in pursuance of the scheme ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" Besides the trades school proposed at Mangalore, it is proposed to open industrial schools in Bellary and Calicut."

Public Works

Construction of the bridge across the Cauvery near Sivasamudram.

* 789 *Q.*—Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to place on the table of the House a statement regarding the amount spent last year and in this year in constructing the bridge across the Cauvery near Sivasamudram, the materials purchased or ordered till now and the time required for finishing the bridge ?

	RS.	A.	P.
A.—Booked expenditure in 1927-28	45	0	0
Booked expenditure from April to September 1928	17	7	0

No materials have been purchased departmentally. The work has been given on lump sum contract and the contractor is collecting the required materials.

According to the contract the contractor is to finish the work within 30 months of the date of handing over the site to him.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know the date when it was let to the contractor ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Only very recently."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know the name of the contractor ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

Veterinary

Prospects and utility of the Chintaladevi cattle farm.

*790 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether he proposes to visit the Chintaladevi cattle farm with a view to study the progress and utility of the said farm ; and

(b) if not, whether he would be pleased to call for a thorough and complete report about its progress, prospects and utility ?

A.—(a) Yes, at an early opportunity.

(b) In view of answer to (a) it is not necessary to call for the report.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Finance

Recommendations by the mirasidars' meeting at Mudikondan regarding the utilization of the remitted provincial contributions.

791 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether certain Mirasidars of Tanjore district held a meeting at Mudikondan on 29th October 1927 to consider the best method of utilizing the 348 lakhs of rupees released by the Central Government, and made recommendations to the Government ; and

(b) if so, what they are ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) A copy of the resolution [a] is appended.

Land Assignment

Land assignment to Adi-Dravidas in Matasa village, Wandiwash taluk.

792 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Esa Eri of Matam village, Wandiwash taluk, North Arcot district, is irrigating wet double crop lands of Matam and Isakolathur villages ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the supply from this Eri is insufficient and whether Government on the petitions of the ryots promised to repair the tank and asked the ryots to remove the prickly-pear on the bund of the Eri ;

[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 362–363 infra.

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(*c*) whether it is a fact that the ryots cleared the bunds accordingly at a cost of about Rs. 500;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that it is proposed to assign the foreshore lands in the same Survey No. 124/2 to Adi-Dravidas and whether the caste ryots have protested against such exclusive assignment;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that a number of darkhast applications were dismissed in previous years for the same land and if so, whether the applicants were caste ryots and the reasons why they were dismissed; and

(*f*) whether the Government will be pleased to call for a full report on the matter?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*f*) The Government have not the details asked for but have called for a report.

Education

Grants for the construction of buildings to the Andhra University.

793 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether sufficient provision will be made in the next budget for grants to the Andhra University for the construction of buildings for starting Honours and Post-graduate courses and also for the construction of a Convocation Hall and administrative offices wherever it might be; and

(*b*) what is the probable amount that would be required for the above purposes?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Plans and estimates for the construction of buildings for starting Honours and Post-graduate courses have not yet been prepared as the question of the headquarters of the University is still unsettled and no provision could accordingly be made in the next year's budget towards the construction of the buildings. The question of the provision to be made in the next year's budget for the construction of a Convocation Hall and administration offices which are estimated to cost Rs. 3·27 lakhs is under consideration.

Improvements to the Training College, Rajahmundry.

794 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any proposals for raising the compound wall and for improving the sanitary arrangements of the Training College, Rajahmundry; and

(*b*) if so, what they are?

A.-(*a*) & (*b*) No such proposals have been received by the Government

Progress of collegiate and secondary education among boys and girls.

795 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the percentage of boys and girls receiving (1) collegiate education and (2) secondary education and (3) elementary education; and

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(*b*) any information in the possession of Government regarding the percentages in other countries such as England, France, Germany, Japan?

A.—(*a*) The percentages to population of boys and girls receiving education on the 31st March 1927 were as shown below:—

		Collegiate education.	Secondary education.	Elementary education.
Boys	...	0·056	0·77	8·2
Girls	...	0·0022	0·072	2·3

(*b*) The Government have no information.

Government encouragement to adult education.

796 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the several steps taken by the Government to encourage adult education;

(*b*) the places where classes are opened for giving free education for adults; and

(*c*) the number of adults receiving education at each place?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member is referred to G.O. No. 746, Law (Education), dated 14th April 1928, and to the annual reports on the working of the Teachers' College, Saidapet, and the Government Training College, Rajahmundry, for the year 1927–28, copies of which have been placed in the Legislative Council Library.

(*c*) The Government have no information except in regard to the adult education class working in the Government Training College, Rajahmundry. The number of adults receiving education in this class was 72 in 1927–28.

Proposals for imparting instruction in agriculture in elementary and middle schools.

797 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 829 answered on 31st March 1927, regarding middle schools teaching agriculture—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any proposals from the Director of Public Instruction for imparting instruction in the elements of agriculture in higher elementary and middle schools; and

(*b*) whether the Government have considered the question and have come to any decision thereon and if so, with what result?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The proposals have not been received yet.

Municipal Councils

Pay and leave to scavengers in municipalities.

798 Q.—Mr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the average pay given to a female scavenger and male scavenger in every district municipality in the Presidency;

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(*b*) whether the scavengers' services are included in the regular department or in the temporary departments of the municipalities; and

(*c*) whether the scavengers are given the privilege of enjoying the Government holiday and whether they are granted casual leave whenever they fall sick?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The subject-matter of the question falls entirely within the province of municipal councils (vide sections 70 and 74 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920). The Government have consequently no information in the matter.

Maternity leave to scavengers in municipalities.

799 *Q.*—Mr. M. V. GANGADHARA SIVA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether every municipality is giving maternity leave to female scavengers; if so, how many females have been granted such leave in every municipality in the Presidency?

A.—The Government have no information as the subject-matter of the question lies entirely within the province of municipal councils under clause (*c*) of section 74 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920.

Industries

Quantity and kinds of oil imported into this province.

800 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether enquiries have been made to find out the quantity and kinds of oils which are imported into this province from foreign countries; and

(*b*) whether the Government have investigated or have information whether these oils can be prepared in this province?

A.—(*a*) Statistics of imports by sea are available in the Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Madras Presidency. Figures of imports by rail are not available.

(*b*) Oils are classified under animal, essential, mineral and vegetable (non-essential) oils. The chief animal oil is fish oil which is imported only to a very limited extent. Fish oil is produced in the Presidency in large quantities and there is a considerable although fluctuating export trade in the oil. The quantity of essential oils imported under each variety is very small. It is under contemplation to undertake at the Kerala Soap Institute the experimental manufacture of certain of these oils with a view to developing the essential oil industry of the Presidency and incidentally to providing at a reasonable cost the essences required for the manufacture of soap in the Institute. There are not, so far as is known, any workable oil bearing deposits in the Presidency. Coconut oil and groundnut oil, the imports of which are practically negligible, are expressed in this country.

II

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN FOR SELECT COMMITTEE ON DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES AMENDMENT BILLS.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" In respect of the Bills of Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao and Mr. P. Anjaneyulu respectively, I appoint Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar as Chairman of the Select Committee." 12 noon.

The Council will now take up the resolution of Mr. Bheemayya.

III

RESOLUTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

APPOINTMENT OF A COMMITTEE TO ENQUIRE INTO THE ECONOMIC CONDITION OF KISTNA, GODAVARI EAST AND GODAVARI WEST.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" Mr. President, Sir, at this stage, I should like to put my case with regard to the necessity of enquiring into the economic conditions of the tract where resettlement is proposed. The Special Settlement officer in making recommendations for rates in the uplands and the dry lands has brushed aside this question by a remark which shows the mentality of the officer. He says that any readjustment is only a matter of annas. Well, Sir, this country has been proved to be proverbially poor, and if the Godavari and Kistna districts appear as a somewhat green patch upon the map of the Andhra districts, they are not certainly above normal and there are a large number of poor ryots even in those districts. The voters' list of those districts which consists of only tens of thousands of people on the basis of an assessment of ten rupees is positive proof that to a large number of people in those districts annas do count. This kind of argument that annas do not count has been elsewhere also adduced. It was adduced when we talked of the taxation on salt. It was adduced when we talked of duties. It is adduced in all conceivable places, and we are told that we have to pay annas, annas and annas, which all make up rupees, hundreds, thousands, lakhs and crores.

" Now, Sir, my second reason why I want this enquiry into the economic conditions in this tract is that the Government itself has recognized that as a basis for resettlement economic conditions have to be examined. The Special Settlement Officer has devoted a whole chapter, chapter 4, to discussing the economic condition of the area he treats, and he has devoted 30 pages to this question out of a report covering 75 pages. And that is a very good justification for me to urge that before you have made a real and proper economic survey of the tract through proper channels and by a proper agency it is not right that you should impose resettlement rates upon that tract. Increase of population in the tract is not of much account to the Settlement officer. Agriculture which is the only occupation of the people and the absence of other occupations is of no concern to him. Increase of the standard of living which has been brought into this country by foreign contact, increase to an extent which was not dreamt of twenty or thirty years ago, increase which must be rated at four or five times what it was when the last settlement took place is not taken into consideration. No family budgets have been examined. There is an examination of the holdings. But an examination of the holdings in relation to the increase of population is not at all made. When we come to cultivation expenses, what is taken into account is the expenditure upon Government farms. We do not know how the figures are arrived at there,

but the cultivation expenses of the ryots of the Godavari and Kistna districts has been put at Rs. 35 an acre. To my mind, Sir, that is a very low estimate and it requires a thorough revision. Again it is urged, as a big argument in favour of resettlement, that paddy cultivation has expanded immensely and therefore, the tract must bear resettlement rates. But on the other side consideration is not given to the point that paddy has driven out other necessary crops and therefore the ryot has to suffer in getting these other necessaries, because he has to pay much more for them than he used to. And then whenever the land values and the lease values are examined the Settlement officer always lays emphasis upon the money values of these things. But to the ryot the money is not a big consideration in regard to his economic condition. Really he lives upon what he produces on the land. The question whether the land is producing more than it produced at the last resettlement is the question that has to be taken into consideration but not the fact that the produce fetches a little more money in money value. Moreover the question of the sale value of land is clouded by this issue. There is a rush for land in this country. No other occupation can be found for the people and every one wants to live on the land and therefore there is an exorbitant rise in the value of land, but the relative outturn is very limited. I know as a matter of fact in the West Godavari district land that fetches Rs. 2,000 per acre in money value, yields only Rs. 50 a year in the form of return to the owner. Therefore to argue from the rise of prices of land is fallacious.

"I shall now examine the report point by point. I won't deal with all the points as I have not the time to do so. But I shall deal with a few points that the Special officer has examined. He has laid great stress upon the expansion of irrigation area to 'soudu' and 'parra' by means of pumping installations. That only shows that there is so much of struggle for life. What does this show except the struggle for life? It is a truth which is applicable for the whole Presidency, not to the Godavari and Kistna districts only. It shows that people are driven to cultivation, to the poorest sort of agriculture, because they get no living otherwise. Then, the agricultural population is dealt with by the Special Settlement officer. He therein admits that the returns may not be absolutely reliable, but yet he says that they are suggestive. He jumps to the conclusion that the agriculturist is holding his own because he finds that there is an increase of 1 per cent in non-cultivating owners, an increase of 2 per cent in tenants, of 2 per cent in cultivating landowners, of 30 per cent in Godavari of cultivating landowners, of 10 per cent in the cultivating landowners in Kistna, and minus 60 per cent in tenants in the Godavari district. There is minus 60 per cent of labourers in the Godavari and Kistna districts. That means that labour has become scarce, and people who have got to make a living upon land have to pay much more than before for labour owing to the shortage of labour. The Special officer wants to prove by all this that the agricultural classes are not losing hold through poverty or indebtedness. His examination of indebtedness is certainly amazing and his remarks on the subject deserve careful attention. I shall not go into the many details but to one statement therein. He says that for loans secured on land the rate of interest is 9 to 12 per cent on immovable property 12 to 15 per cent, or even 18 per cent on unsecured loans. He says these are not the rates of interest ruling in a bankrupt country. I do not know if England is bankrupt with 5 per cent interest, but here we have 18 per cent interest, and this rate of interest is claimed as

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connoting prosperity. Certainly it connotes, if at all it connotes anything, the absolute poverty of the people and the absolute need that there is for capital and for investment. And then he analyses the rail-borne traffic, and he arrives at some figures for passenger traffic, and says that there is an increase of 68 per cent in the inward traffic and 70 per cent outward. As regards goods traffic the increase is 25 per cent inward and 55 per cent outward. Well, Sir, this is not a very big increase considering the fact that thirty years of progress has taken place in the country and year by year man has been adding to his labour on the land because he cannot get labour elsewhere. But the Special officer again turns round and says that railway returns are subject to many extraneous influences and we cannot press conclusions too closely. He talks of sea-borne trade but he excludes the port of Bandar. He finds that it has decayed and therefore his conclusion is that we need not take into consideration that port. He says that the decay of the port of Bandar happened on account of special circumstances. Then he thinks of exports and imports. He says imports have risen from 41 to 53 lakhs and exports from 90 to 148 lakhs. And here he does not enter into the question of the relative value of the rupee at the last settlement and at this settlement. The figures are very credulously swallowed by the Special officer to make out that this area is grandly progressive under British rule. And then so far as the agricultural outturn of the tract is concerned, he takes the Kistna delta into account but this delta is not separate from parts of Guntur. He says that the increase is 37 per cent. When we go to Godavari, he says the increase is only 5 per cent. It is not known why there is such disparity between the Godavari figure and the Kistna figure. Then we come to cattle and sheep. Cattle and sheep have decreased . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member has come almost to the end of his time-limit."

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" I have almost come to the end of my speech, Sir. Cattle and sheep have decreased, but the Special officer finds some excuse for such a decrease. He says that the figures are not reliable. When the figures cannot serve his purpose he says that the figures are not reliable. He says that the ryot has himself aggravated this decrease, since he continues to waste his resources on the maintenance of useless beasts. I do not know what is meant by this, whether the Special officer reminds us of the Western practice of shooting animals when they are useless. I shall not take up much more time of the House, Sir, but I shall just refer . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will not be allowed to take up any more time, I am afraid."

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" I shall just refer to the statistics that he takes from the co-operative societies. There are 523 co-operative societies in Kistna and 406 in Godavari. He refers to the landowners who have debts in these societies. He examines only 75 societies and he says in one group there are 383 debtors out of 535, in another place 482 out of 727, 232 out of 638 in another place and so on. These certainly are not figures that would show that there is a great deal of economic development in this tract. I admit, Sir, that there has been some development. People are there living. They raise their crops and there are improvements. I admit all these but still I say it is the duty of the Government to see that they do not demand

a share of the land when there is no excess. They may demand a share when there is any excess of profit after meeting the ordinary human necessities of the people. He says the irrigation schemes are paying. The Godavari and Kistna delta schemes are now paying and paying well. Therefore the resettlement has to be conducted on quite different lines. The family budgets have to be examined and there should not be any impression that the ryot is being squeezed out of what is absolutely essential for his bare existence. It must be examined from the condition of the lowest ryot who pays revenue and not from the status of the highest man who gets the largest profit in the area. I therefore have pleasure in seconding this motion."

12-15 p.m. * Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—" Sir, we are placed under a great disadvantage in dealing with this question. There are no statutory enactments in regard to this land revenue which constitutes the major part of the revenues of the province. I shall illustrate my point by one fact. Formerly, in respect of the resettlements of some districts, it was laid down in one of the Government Orders that in all future settlements the standard price to be taken into consideration should be the lowest price touched in the 20 previous non-famine years. That was the rule laid down. When I interpellated the Government on this matter some time back, the Government said that they had changed this policy since and that they were taking now the *average* for 20 non-famine years. I do not know what actuated the Government to change their policy. Land revenue is an important revenue and it should not be left to the sweet will and pleasure of the executive part of the Government, but must be standardized on the basis of some legislative enactment. If there had been any legislative enactment in the matter, Government would not have changed their ground without going into the merits of the case, as they have done now. This is the root evil—the absence of legislative enactment to regulate the levy of land revenue. With reference to the particular question on hand, namely, the resettlement operations in the East and West Godavari and Kistna districts may I point out that the enquiry must be an open enquiry at which persons concerned may have a chance of being heard and leading evidence—although Government are determined not to be convinced. The recent enquiry has been conducted in a hole and corner fashion; the names of the villages to be taken for examination have not been published, nor the places of enquiry; and no notice was given to the principal persons concerned. Under what headings the facts were collected nobody knew. The enquiry was in the hands of the revenue official, the Settlement officer, and it goes without saying how biassed his conclusions would be. This is inevitable because he has to support the Government point of view. In an enquiry of this sort, in connexion with enhancement of land revenue, it is absolutely necessary that the enquiry must be open and straightforward, as it affects 70 per cent of the people who are owners of small lands and whose mainstay is agriculture; and no persons interested shall have reason to complain that it was done in a covert fashion. As I pointed out, nearly 70 per cent of the people are owners of small holdings paying less than Rs. 10. That enquiry has been reduced to 4 or 5 headings. First, the Settlement officer stated that land value had increased from two to five times; secondly, that the rental values had increased from two to three times, that there had been an increase in the material prosperity of the ryots, that cultivation expenses were Rs. 35 per acre, and so on. On the basis of these, the Settlement officer proposed an increase of 18¾ per cent.

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"With reference to the alleged increase in the income of landholders, I may point out that if an opportunity was given to the people to put their case before the Enquiry officer (people who are holders of small lands and who are most effected), it would have been well and good. Instead of that, having collected his facts at random, he has begun to generalize.

"With reference to the rentals, we do not know what rentals were taken into consideration, and of what villages."

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR (from the Chair) :—"The hon. Member will soon wind up."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—"If the people were aware what villages were taken into consideration they would have come forward with valuable information to be placed before the Committee.

"As regards the inflated land values, in this unfortunate country of ours there is absolutely no means by which people can invest their moneys ; nor do they have enough to invest. Agriculture is their only avocation, and they must live by land and invest their moneys on cultivation. Government's calculations for arriving at increased rental values are entirely baseless.

"With reference to the indebtedness of the ryots, the Settlement officer has made a mistake in ignoring the only available and possible source of information. Mortgages, and the co-operative societies are his source of information. We know that for fear of income-tax the sowcar never lends money on mortgages. He gives money on pro-notes or on small securities at high rates of interest. The Settlement officer has not taken pains to examine the private accounts of the sowcars which would reveal a very sad state of things. That is the only true source which would give the officer an idea of the indebtedness of the ryots.

"With reference to the material profit, if he had taken into account the general rise in the economic level, he would have made certain deductions before pronouncing in favour of the material prosperty of the ryots.

"One more point. With reference to cultivation expenses, the Settlement officer's report says that in the Samalkote farm, it is Rs. 30 per acre. But most of the landowners are small pattadars and their family budgets should have been examined before arriving at any conclusions. In view of these facts, the Settlement officer's report could not be accepted."

*Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"Mr. President, Sir, in the first place, without introducing a Land Revenue Bill it is highly arbitrary on the part of the executive Government to attempt to increase the land revenue of the country. In spite of the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, this Government has not introduced any Land Revenue Bill, though the Reforms themselves came seven years back. Last year, a draft Bill was circulated for public opinion and Government, finding that their Bill would not get through this Council and that all parties would oppose it and would not agree to keep the right of increasing the rates in the hands of the Government dropped the matter altogether. We find that the position of the Government ryots is worse than that of the zamindari ryots. The latter have at least got the Estates Land Act which prevents any enhancement of kist on the part of the zamindars. Once in thirty years, in the name of resettlement,

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without doing anything to the ryots for deserving any profits from the income of the ryots, the Government want to take something more. What have they
12-30 p.m. done to deserve any increase of revenue from the ryots? The zamindar will not be entitled to claim anything unless he has done something to improve the yield of the land. If a canal is dug there, the Government comes for water-rate and, if irrigation is extended, the ryots have to pay water-cess and, if cultivation is extended, they have to pay cess. The Settlement officer says that roads have been newly opened a bit although in fact except the Masulipatam-Bezwada Railway line no new lines have been opened during this period. The Masulipatam road has deteriorated. Simply because a railway line has been newly opened, you cannot say that the people are more prosperous. On the other hand, people have learnt to spend more money by travelling often. Government have raised the shutters to 6 feet no doubt, but they have collected inclusion fees at the rate of Rs. 25 per acre on thousands of acres in the Kistna Eastern delta and the Kistna Western delta in spite of the resolution of this Council that the Government should not collect anything in the shape of inclusion fees. The Government, when they collected the inclusion fees and issued a Government Order vetoing the resolution of this Council promised that they would spend the increased income on the improvement of drainage schemes in the deltaic area. Nothing has been done in that direction so far. The report says that there has been no remissions. Of course, the people do not get remissions easily and therefore they do not care to go and dance attendance on the officials asking for remission. It is an extremely difficult matter to get any remission whatever. We know that the Government servants would be in the black list of the Government if they gave remissions or failed to support measures intended to give increased revenue to the Government.

"Now, Sir, something like the farce of an enquiry is said to have been made by the Settlement officer. Of course, it is a confidential matter. Government servants have to make out a strong case for increase of revenue to the Government. If any Government servant says: 'No, this area is indebted. These people have not got very much prosperity and there is no case for the Government to get more revenue.' Naturally that man would be removed from that place. Sir, some villages are said to have been selected for enquiry. Of course, we do not know and the public do not know what enquiries were made. The people themselves do not know what opinions have been formed by the Government officials. Only when we put some questions in the Council, we are given some list showing what villages have been taken for enquiry. That kind of enquiry cannot be satisfactory. We are challenging the Government that no case has been made out for any increase either in the land revenue or in the water-cess. We also say and the resolutions passed at various conferences of ryots say that no real enquiry has been made. The ryots have not very much prospered after all. Behind the apparent contentment there is a lot of discontent and the indebtedness of the ryots has really increased probably due to certain habits of the people, but mainly due to the system of Government. For instance, the people have become more litigious. In deltaic areas they spend more money in going to courts and wasting money. Of course, their wants also have increased. They spend more money for their daily lives. All these things show that the people have not prospered at all. At any rate, prosperity has not increased during the last thirty years and therefore the Government have no claim whatever for

getting more from the people. They say that the value of land has increased. To that I would say, as pointed out by Mr. Ramasomayajulu, that there being no other investment in this country, all people rush to the lands investing their little savings on the purchase of lands. Naturally there has been an increase in the value of lands. Rents have also increased, the tenants offer higher rents because there is no other occupation except agriculture, all other industries having died out in the country. Therefore if a ryot has merely grass for his cattle, he would be content and would pay off the whole thing to the landholder. That is the position to which the ryots have been reduced.

"The settlement report says that the population has increased. Of course, that is the case. They require more food. The lands also have been sub-divided into smaller and smaller holdings. That is no reason why more water-rate should be demanded from these people by the Government. All these show that all these things seem to have been done arbitrarily. Of course, it has become a practice for Government officers to select a particular area once in thirty years and say that the revenue must be increased to a certain extent. In this case it is 18¾ per cent. This figure had been decided upon even before the Settlement party was sent. Everybody thought there will be an increase of 25 per cent. Probably 18¾ per cent was fixed after the famous Tanjore no-tax campaign. Now, the Government seems determined to collect this 18¾ per cent enhancement in our areas. Therefore, Sir, I have very great pleasure in supporting the resolution that an open enquiry should be made."

Mr. M. NARAYANA RAO :—"Sir, I rise to support the motion of my hon. Friend Mr. Bheemayya. This is a very modest request that has been put forward before the Government. We only want an open public enquiry into the economic condition of the tract as a preliminary to the resettlement. The resolution only asks : 'Government be pleased to constitute a committee not less than half of the members of which being elected by this Council. . .' This is a very modest request which the Government, I think, should readily accept. We only want that an impartial enquiry should be made into the economic condition of the ryots. The ryots in general feel, Sir, that the enquiry made by the officer concerned is partial, one-sided and unsatisfactory. That is the opinion expressed by the West Godavari Resettlement Committee on 12th August 1928 and this opinion of the Committee has been forwarded to the Government by my hon. Friend Mr. D. Narayana Raju. The Committee further say that an enquiry by a mixed Committee should be made. The Government later on asked Mr. Narayana Raju to say what the reasons were for characterizing the report of the Settlement officer as casual, one-sided and unsatisfactory. Mr. Narayana Raju in a memorandum has explained all the facts and the circumstances under which an enquiry was again necessary. It is evident that the Settlement officer concerned always had the view of somehow or other enhancing the assessment and showing increased revenue. The natural tendency of an official revising assessments all by himself may well be stated in the words of the Bombay Land Revenue Assessment Committee, 1926, which says: 'Officials are apt to regard the question of assessment too much from the financial point of view and are liable to ignore the real interests of the masses in their not unnatural desire to bring

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additional revenue into the exchequer'. From this it will be evident that the official concerned will be always naturally inclined to raise the assessment somehow or other. So, I need not say very much about it.

"The economic enquiry which the Settlement officer states that he held in some places was not let known to the people. They neither knew where the enquiry was held nor how it was conducted. Neither the time nor the place of enquiry was known to the people. It appears that some people who knew about it and offered to give evidence were not wanted. The Settlement officer had his own view and his own method of making the enquiry. The ryots therefore had no opportunity to explain the position clearly before the Settlement officer. That is the reason why we say that the enquiry held was casual, one-sided and unsatisfactory.

"In paragraph 38 of the scheme report the Settlement officer says that he examined 1,799 ryots belonging to 71 delta villages and 131 ryots of 8 upland villages, out of 2,800 villages inhabited by 13½ lakhs of people in these three districts and found that 37 per cent of the delta ryots and 40 per cent of the upland ryots are free from debts. Even assuming these figures to be correct, the overwhelming majority in both the delta and upland villages are indebted. So, even if we take the figures furnished by the Settlement officer, the indebtedness of the ryots is extremely large. But I do not think the enquiry into the economic condition of the ryots can be said to be true from the statement of the officer concerned. He only seems to have examined the accounts of some co-operative societies, some mortgage deeds and other things from the Registrar's office. The ryots generally borrow in different ways. As explained by my hon. Friend, they borrow from *kathas* and other things.

12-45 p.m. "I know that these ryots generally borrow their monies on account with the capitalists and when the amount becomes very large it is the capitalist that forces the ryot to give him surety by means of mortgage bonds or some such thing. When the ryot is thus forced he gives mortgage bond by going to Registrar's office. If you will look into the mortgage bonds that have been executed by some of the ryots you will find that they have borrowed more monies than they are capable of. So, the figures collected from this data, viz., up to what extent the ryots have become indebted by going to Registrars' offices and mortgaging their property with the capitalists cannot be said to be correct. The ryots have incurred debts in other ways also, viz., by taking money from capitalists on account and also by some other means. So, if you will take into consideration all these factors and have a thorough enquiry made, it will prove that the report of the Settlement officer is not correct and many more additions will have to be made to the ryots' indebtedness. The Settlement officer proceeds to determine his data by fixing 28 per cent for the purchase of cattle and other implements, 24 per cent for cultivation expenses, 8 per cent for liquidation, 14 per cent for marriage expenses, 10 per cent for family expenses and so on. Similarly, he fixes the data for the upland villages also. We do not know on what materials these percentages are fixed, as he has not given out any detail. Moreover, the ryots whom he has examined could not possibly have given out their true economic condition because giving out one's own economic condition especially when one is indebted is rather a bar for his social status among his own country-men. Under these circumstances, you cannot expect the economic enquiry that has been made to be correct at all.

"The cost of wages, cattle and manure, the officer concerned estimates at 150 per cent. I estimate it at much more than that. I estimate it at something like 400 per cent. The Settlement officer seems to have taken some pains in getting these figures. He has not taken the pain of examining the records that are maintained in the Cocanada Agricultural Farm which is worked by Government capital. According to what Mr. Prakasam has given in his *Swarajya* paper we find that the expenses for agriculture are much more than what the Special Settlement officer has given in his report. We worked out from the figures of the Cocanada Agricultural Farm. They are much more than what the Settlement officer himself admits. If we go into the health and morality of the people of these districts which has a great bearing on the economic condition of the people, it would have been better for us if the Settlement officer had spoken of their last year's condition. But he preferred otherwise. From 1926–27 excepting Madras, in the districts of Kistna and Godavari we find the highest death rate. For every 1,000 births about 250 infants died. In this connexion I would like to draw the attention of the hon. the Revenue Member to a paragraph written in the Agricultural Commission's report. This is what it says:—

'The close relations between agriculture and public health are obvious and they react upon each other to a remarkable degree. There is no direction in which the rural community needs help more than in the provision of medical facilities and public health amenities. Economic wastage due to disease cannot be over-exaggerated. Malaria slays its thousands and lowers the economic efficiency of hundreds of thousands; plague and cholera sweep the country from time to time; hookworm disease, kala-azar and diseases arising from diet deficiency insidiously reduce the labour power of the cultivating classes.'

"I beg to bring to the notice of the hon. the Revenue Member the above remarks. So taking all these into consideration the ryot population thinks that the enquiry held by the Special Settlement officer is one-sided and unsatisfactory."

(At this stage the bell rang and the hon. Member closed his speech.)

* Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Mr. President, no doubt we question the right and authority of the Government to have any resettlement whatsoever. The principle on which this theory is based is that the land always belongs to the ryot. But the Government think that it belongs to the State. The present Government has stepped into the shoes of the old Government and the old Government never had any right at all to the land. Any Government has only the right to collect tax to carry on the Government and also to protect the people entrusted to their charge. Now, it is well known to you, Mr. Chairman, that the ryot was there even before this Government had stepped in, even centuries and centuries before. Governments might come and go, but the ryot is there cultivating his little bit of land, improving it from generation to generation and its present improved state is due to his exertions and the money and labour spent on it. The resolution that has been moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Bheemayya takes cognizance of the fact that the Government is the owner of the land and simply asks for a remedy. In making resettlements taking the situation as it is, who is to enquire into the matter? The Government have got their own subordinates and they went into the matter as fully as they could, as any

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court would go into a case when it is an ex-parte case. Under those circumstances they cannot have more information than what they have at present. They wanted to have their own enquiry without the help or assistance of the people or their representatives. They have gone from village to village, made certain enquiries and submitted their scheme report. What we ask the Government is not to go into the question whether the State has got a right to tax the people on the basis that the land belongs to the State, but to see that a thorough enquiry is made by an independent body where the representatives of Government may also take part. The resolution also proposes that a portion of this committee should consist of the elected members of this House and certain other nominated members of the Government also. By the previous speakers it has been stated fully that the present report does not bear any scrutiny and it seems to be a made-up thing. The reasons that are given for the enhancement perhaps in the scheme report are these. The first and foremost, as it appears to the officer in charge, seems to be the increase in the population by 15 and 22 per cent in the East Godavari and Kistna districts and so there should be an enhancement. That seems to be the idea of the scheme report. If the population increases, we must increase the revenue. That seems to be one of the reasons for proposing the enhancement of revenue. I submit that this factor should not be taken into consideration. If at all it is taken into consideration, it goes against the Government rather than in favour of the Government. As the number of people has increased, the ryots will require more money for maintaining the increased population and so it would be just if they are asked to pay a lesser revenue than what they have hitherto been paying. The scheme report says 'trade and commerce have developed.' True, but it is the merchant that derives any benefit out of it. The ryot does not derive any benefit from the development of trade and commerce. On account of the development of trade and commerce, Government are having their full share by way of income-tax and other taxes. Then the scheme report says 'Communications have improved.' That also they urge as another ground for enhancing the present rate. That is not a ground at all. The fourth ground is that people spend more monies upon luxuries now, and so we want to have a share of that. If people are spending more monies now, then it shows that their requirements have increased and that should be a reason for not enhancing the tax. Then the fifth ground that has been given is that the holdings have increased. But the report does not give the total. The report itself admits that the present holdings in East Godavari are only six acres each and in Kistna it is about seven acres. That is the extent of each holding, but each holding belongs to a family which may consist of five persons on the average. The scheme report thinks this as too much and so the Government must have an enhancement in revenue. Another benefit that is conferred by this Government on the ryots and of which they want to take advantage, is that there is no variation in the season and the coercive process adopted for collecting tax has affected only a very small fraction of the revenue. So what the scheme report says is 'there are no variations in the seasons, so you must pay more; we have not employed coercive process on an extensive scale, so you must pay more.' That is the sixth reason they give. The seventh reason they give is that the economic condition of the agricultural classes is sounder than before. 'You seem to be richer than before, why don't you pay more', that seems to be the seventh reason. The scheme report itself admits that taking a group of villages it was found that the indebtedness of the ryots according to the records

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available in the Sub-Registrar's offices was to the extent of 7 lakhs in 1902, i.e., twenty-five years ago. What is it now? It is 13 lakhs. So the indebtedness has nearly doubled. Even then the scheme report thinks that the economic condition of the people is sounder. Perhaps it is the other way. The land value has gone up from two to five times the original value, and so the scheme report says that the increased land value is due to the increased income from the land and so you must pay more tax. I submit, Sir, that the value paid for the land is absolutely disproportionate to the income that is derived from it. The scheme report also admits that the ryot has got a 'land hunger', and so he is prepared to pay more price for land than what he originally paid. People must invest their monies somewhere and the ryots as a rule invest their monies in lands lest they should lose their monies altogether if they were to invest in other undertakings. We saw the illustration only the other day as to what happened with regard to the Carnatic Paper Mills Company, Limited. If people invest their monies in industrial enterprises, Government will see that people lose their monies in such enterprises. So far as ryots are concerned, they think that investment in lands is the only safest investment and so they always go in for lands whatever might be the price they have to pay in competition with others.

"Under these circumstances the scheme report says that the Government should have a share of it and calls this increase an unearned increment. I do not know how this is an unearned increment. The ryots work on their lands day in and day out; they invest all their money in making improvements to the land and this has been going on from generation to generation. Perhaps he is thinking of the landed property in England where the value of the land which is lying waste increases year after year and the owners of the land get a large value after a certain number of years. That is an unearned increment because the owner of the land does not invest any money to improve the land but simply keeps it as it is. All the reasons given by the scheme report should be enquired into. What the Government officers say is only an one-sided view. The ryots' view also should be taken into consideration and they should be allowed to state their views. The scheme report says that the expenses of cultivation amount to Rs. 35 per acre, while the same report admits that the Government spend about Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 per acre at Samalkot on their farm. Thus we can see how the Government Officer's report is not a correct one. The resolution now under consideration is a very modest one and it asks only for an independent enquiry. I hope the hon. the Revenue Member, who is always sympathetic would accept it." 1 p.m

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Sir, there will be no difference of opinion as regards the essential aim and object of this resolution, viz., the relief of the distress among the ryots and the improvement of their economic condition. But difference arises in the method of achieving the object. Everyone who has been in touch with the social and economic condition of the ryot will certainly agree that we should improve their condition; but is the appointment of a mixed committee the means of achieving that object? Mixed committees have become a very pleasant pastime in certain sections of the House. Past experience shows that these mixed committees have not been able to achieve any substantial results."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"What about the Simon Committee; will they be able to achieve anything?"

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Therefore in a discussion of this matter we should see what is the sane and sound method ; it is not passion or fire-works that will enable us to help the ryot in his economic distress. Hard facts alone would be of use,not pyro-technics for the purpose of beach oratory and advertisement in the platform. (Mr. S. Satyamurti : 'To impress upon Sir John Simon.') We have to see very carefully whether the present land tax is such as to be the main cause of the economic distress of the ryot. That is the question that we have to consider. But we see here that the benches of the Nationalist, Swarajist, Congress and other parties are so thin showing thereby what little interest they take in this all-important question of the improvement of the economic condition of the ryot.

"We have to consider whether this incidence of land revenue is the main cause of the low production of the ryot. Again is the land revenue the cause of excessive fragmentation,; is it again the cause of the unequal distribution of the incidence of taxation ? These symptoms are noticeable not only in Godavari and Kistna districts but all over the province. There should therefore be a comprehensive enquiry in regard to the relief of agricultural distress all over the province. The symptoms that we find are general and universal but not particular to these three districts. I would therefore gladly agree to a comprehensive enquiry into the question whether throughout the province the incidence of land tax has been the cause of the heavy indebtedness of the ryot, the excessive fragmentation of the holdings and the low productivity of the soil. These are general questions of universal applicability to all the ryots of the Presidency. A scheme report for these two districts was published. We know that there will be a resettlement in these districts; in spite of that we have not moved our little finger in the direction of making an economic enquiry into the condition of the ryots of these districts. We have no materials on the non-official side to challenge the details of the official report published by the Settlement Officer. What steps have we taken to ascertain the conditions ourselves without any official help and challenge the facts stated by the Government ? Not having done anything for the past twelve months, to ask for the appointment of a mixed committee now will not show sincerity. Government have been able to collect all their facts and have their official report popularized and they have stolen a march over us. What have we now to combat the position taken by the Government and overcome the insurmountable difficulties ? Our own negligence is responsible. If we had started work a year or six months before the operations began things would have been a bit easier. But there is a motive underlying this resolution. The Mover of the resolution and his supporters know they will never be at a disadvantage. For if the motion is carried they will say, 'We have been able to achieve this'; because they know that 18¾ per cent cannot be exceeded. On the other hand, if others say that we don't want a committee of this kind and if the motion is lost they would prejudice the mind of the ryot and say, 'We have tried our best, but the other Opposition has defeated us.' It is only for this tactical purpose but not with the real object of helping the ryot to improve his economic prospects that this question seems to have been brought forward. For, if otherwise, a more comprehensive enquiry into the condition of all the ryots and the effect of the incidence of land tax should have been made. I am not opposed to having an enquiry into the condition of the ryot ; but what I say is that the way in which this motion is proposed asking that the resettlement

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should be stopped and that a mixed committee should be appointed shows that the resolution will not achieve the object in view. What is the committee to do, I ask? I shall take leave of the House to show what we have been able to do in the course of two years regarding the economic survey of my district. You have to visit village after village and map out and study the various conditions prevailing there. You will have to go to the taluks and study the question with reference to the markets, the loan conditions, the irrigation sources and the pasture lands. Then you will have to call the ryots and ask them to give evidence. I know how difficult it was to collect the facts in my district. We had to go to the ryots and explain to them that we had come there to help them, pay them one visit and then a second visit, inspire some confidence in them and collect the information. All this was ten years ago. But now if we approach them in the disturbed condition, they will be very suspicious and will not come forward to give any reliable information. We should have done all this without any official help; if an official is put on the committee, certainly the people will be very suspicious. They would think that the official has come to know the real condition of things and would raise land tax. But if we do it ourselves the people will have confidence in us and will come forward to give us some kind of evidence. But I do not think that this mixed committee will help to achieve the object in view, viz., the improvement of the economic condition of the ryot. To achieve that object a more comprehensive enquiry should be made. While therefore I do not oppose the resolution, I am unable to see it will have any beneficial effect on the ryot."

Mr. B. Venkataratnam spoke in Telugu.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have to say a few words on this subject. Resettlement is going on in our district of South Kanara. We have started an association called the Landowners Association and we passed a resolution the other day that justice should be done to us. Primarily, justice should be done on the principle that there shall be no resettlement of any district without the consent of this House. That is one of the resolutions the Landowners Association has passed." 1-15 p.m.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I think the hon. Member is not confining himself to the terms of the resolution."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"The principle for which we stand is . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I request the hon. Member not to expound his principles but to confine himself to the terms of the resolution."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"The present resolution says that an enquiry should be made by a committee consisting of officials and non-officials, six non-officials being elected by this House. It only carries out to a limited extent . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Perhaps the hon. Member has given notice of some other resolution. I do not find anything about six members in this resolution."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"What I said was that the majority of the members of the committee should be elected by this House. The motion before the House carries out only to a limited extent the resolution passed by this House that there should be no increase of land revenue without the consent

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of this House. It is but fair on a general principle that this committee should be appointed to enquire into the economic condition and settle at what rate the incidence of taxation should be increased. I therefore heartily sympathise with the object of this resolution. The speech of the hon. Member, Sir A. P. Patro, struck me as very strange, having regard to the fact that he and his party have again and again joined the whole House in re-affirming that important principle that the consent of the House should be taken before the rate of increase is settled. It is very strange that he should oppose this resolution. In the interests of the universal application of the principle of this resolution to the whole Presidency I hope this House will support it, every one at least of the elected members. This is a very important principle. We only ask in a very modest way for the re-affirmation of the principle which this House has adopted more than once during these six years."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The House will now adjourn and re-assemble at 2-30 p.m."

(For further debate on this resolution please see page 353 infra.)

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

IV

ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. NATARAJAN TO WATCH THE CARNATIC PAPER MILLS.

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'*that the business of the House do stand adjourned, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the question of the employment of Mr. Natarajan on Rs. 650 per mensem for merely watching the machinery and buildings of the Carnatic Paper Mills.*'

"The manner in which the Government have managed to take possession of the Carnatic Paper Mills is a continuous series of muddles. The Government have made a parade of their abundant solicitude for the rate-payers' money in justifying their action in taking possession of these mills from the hands of the directors of the company. It is well within the memory of the hon. Members of this House that this indigenous undertaking was the first of its kind in which a large amount of public money has been invested. After the State Aid to Industries Act was passed, the management of this Carnatic Paper Mills Company approached the Government, thinking that the intentions of the State Aid to Industries Act would be honestly fulfilled by the Government. The Government no doubt lent a helping hand to this company in the beginning. But never did they do it in any graceful manner. At every step, there was a spirit of suspicion as to the successful working of these mills. Lakhs of money might be spent in spite of the protests of persons competent to speak on the Russellkonda Saw Mills; but yet, if we on this side of the House should ask the Government to give an indigenous concern like the Carnatic Paper Mills some amount of money, not on purely business lines, but with a spirit of sympathy, all concern for the tax-payers' money rises up in the hearts of those men filling the Treasury Bench. The Ministers who happened to be in charge of the Industries Department may in their heart of hearts be sympathetic towards such a concern, but I know they are being pulled by the Reserved side, especially the Finance Department, not to transgress what they consider to be . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I am afraid the hon. Member is making too long a prelude to the subject matter now under consideration."

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Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—"Sir, the unfortunate circumstance that is attached to this Carnatic Paper Mills Company is that it is difficult to separate one muddle from another muddle without making some reference to the previous muddle. The latest muddle of the Government seems to me to pay an amount of Rs. 650 per mensem to one Mr. Natarajan who takes pleasure in calling himself not Natarajan but Nat Ragan, for merely watching the buildings and mills of this Carnatic Paper Mills Company. It was only yesterday, Sir, that we came to know that the Government could possibly commit such a blunder as this, i.e., to pay an amount of Rs. 650 for merely watching the buildings of the mills. The Government admit that he represents a firm or a corporation which is considering to buy these mills. It seems to me an absurd business proposition that the very person who is considered to be the prospective buyer of this machinery should be placed in charge of it and asked to watch that machinery. It reminds me, Sir, of deputing the wolf to keep guard over a flock of sheep. I ask any businessman to reconcile this position, namely, of deputing the very person who, in the opinion of the Government, is intending to buy this concern, to be in charge of it before the transaction is actually closed. I am also surprised at the manner in which this young man —I am told Mr. Natarajan is only a very young man— is able to bamboozle the Government to a position such as this. His antecedents do not seem to be creditable. I wonder how a Government which is ordinarily expected to be in possession of all the facts and never to stint expenditure where they consider it necessary to shadow political workers, is not able to know the antecedents of this man. I do not want to speak anything more about it because I am sure the Government, if it only cares to look into these things, will be able to know more about this Nat Ragan than what they pretend now to know about him I have no doubt more will be said about this person by my hon. Friend, Sir A. P. Patro, who seemed to be once in the grip of this enchanting young man. I am only sorry, Sir, that the very interests of the tax-payers which the Government are so much concerned to safeguard will be jeopardized by the action they have already taken and continue to take in the same manner in which they have done. But I have no doubt that their experience of this young man will be very very unpleasant. It is my duty to forewarn the Government of this. I therefore move that the business of the House do stand adjourned."

Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—"Mr. President, I second this motion and submit to this House that this subject has been before the House more than once. Even yesterday by a number of questions, some information was sought in this House from the Government benches but the Government have decided not to take this House into their confidence. They always give evasive answers, they do not say what they are going to do with the mills, why this mill was handed over to a young man of the description which my hon. Friend and Leader has given just now. The antecedents of this young gentleman are not known, and it is reported that he once floated a company in this very city known as the Indian Industrial Trading Corporation, Limited. The concern collapsed and as observed by my Leader, Sir Patro was one of the directors of the concern. He happened to be a director purely because of the enchanting inducements given by this young man."

Mr. K. R. Karant :—"What are those ?"

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Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—" He represented himself, it seems, to a number of gentlemen in this city that he was the agent of a very important company in London, and that he had already taken some contracts for oil and if the company was floated and oil was manufactured in the city, they would be getting money just for the asking of it. This was the promise held out by this young man. Then he was an expert in oil; now he has turned out to be an expert in paper making. The hon. Mr. Moir was telling us the other day that he had gone from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin in search of an expert, but he could not get one. After all I now congratulate him in fixing upon a proper man, i.e., Mr. Natarajan. Yesterday it was given out by the hon. the Development Minister—I do not know how far he is responsible for this appointment—that this young man was appointed as a representative of a company, whose existence or antecedents he did not like to disclose, for a payment of Rs. 650 a month. Formerly it appears the Government were spending Rs. 1,000 on this concern simply to keep it up, to protect it from being spoiled. Now this young man, out of philanthrophy or kindness to Government have accepted to watch and keep this company and its properties intact for a payment of Rs. 650. Now, Sir, to a supplementary question put by an hon. Member of this House, the hon. the Development Minister said that a guarantee in the way of a cash deposit of Rs. 1,50,000 was taken from this young man. For what purpose this amount was taken as a deposit, it is not stated."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" Has he deposited a security ? "

Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—" That is what is understood from the little that was said by the hon. the Development Minister. I do not know whether he will say anything more or he will stop there. The Government are very reticent on this subject. We sought for explanation both inside this House and outside it on so many occasions as to what they intend to do with this mill. We told them that the country was very much interested in this mill and that the country wanted this mill should be helped by the Government and put in proper working order. I said once before that this Government is aiming to kill this industry outright.

2-45 p.m. "I repeat it again, I repeated it even outside this House, though my hon. Friend, the Finance Member, threatened me with prosecution or action or something of that sort. The object of the Government from the beginning is to kill this industry outright. They have determined it from 1925 and with that avowed object they have lent the money and taken possession of the mill. If it is not the intention of the Government to destroy this industry and to prevent people from advancing more money on any private firm, why should they take possession of the mill now, and show to the people that Government has already taken possession of this mill and that there is no prospect of this mill being worked or helped by Government? The only result will be that Government will have full powers to sell the mill. They had already given notice and they had now handed over the mill to a company from which they had an offer. Sometimes they say that they have nothing to do with the company and that this company is merely requested on behalf of Government to keep a watch on the mill in order to protect the mill from being spoiled or destroyed. That is all that they say. But, we assert that since we are not contradicted in this matter, except by a vehement speech from the Treasury, not disclosing any facts at all, I make bold to say

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again that the information that the people have got is that a few gentlemen, three or four English gentlemen, constituted themselves into a company and put up this young man as a representative of that company. What the Government want to do is to swallow a concern which was built up at a cost of 24 lakhs for a petty sum of 4 lakhs; they in their generosity and in the interests of the tax-payer want to sell away all the property for 4 lakhs, whether paid or to be paid in future. And this one and a half lakhs is stated to be only a deposit made by this young man in respect of the payment of Rs. 650 a month. It is not the security by this man for his pay but an advance for the sale-proceeds that has to be paid by the company which he represents. That is the information we have got. If the Development Minister or his patron the hon. the Finance Member wants to deny all these things, he may do so. Unfortunately, we have got just now a Development Minister who has not got a party of his own, but has simply to rely on the strength of the Government. He cannot assert his own independence and has to depend entirely for everything on Government and he has placed himself entirely at the disposal of the Finance Member. Even for giving information to this House or to meet arguments from this side, it is always the Finance Member who is always obliging this House.

"So what we submit to this House is, our anxiety is to see that this industry is not destroyed by the action of this Government. What happened all these three or four years? What is going to happen is after the expiry of the time given to this company, that is the 1st January 1929, the Government is going to sell this property worth 24 lakhs for a petty sum of 4 lakhs to this company, in which I am told, some of the high officials are interested also. I shall be very glad . . ."

The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir :—"Is the hon. Member in order in making a charge of that kind against the officials without specifying the names?"

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—"Is it a point of order?"

The hon. the President :—"If any reference is made to any particular Member of this House, I have to consider whether that statement is in order. If the hon. Member makes any reference to a general body, I do not think that the House need take notice, or the President need take notice of it."

Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—"I make this statement not to make any insinuation against any officials, but to give them an opportunity to clear up these rumours which are circulated amongst the shareholders. If they deny all these things, I shall be very glad. Even last time, the hon. Mr. Moir made general observations. That is not the way . . ."

The hon. the President :—"I am not able to see how all this is relevant to the motion now under consideration."

Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—"We submit that this Rs. 650 is not given as salary to Mr. Natarajan, but it is a sort of arrangement between the Government and Mr. Natarajan, to simply allow time to pass, because the Government have given notice to the company to pay the amount of Rs. 7,80,000 before 1st January. As I said before, this lakh and a half that is stated to be deposit money is only a part of the amount of 4 lakhs for which this mill is going to be sold. In that light, I submit to this House, that what I said is quite relevant and I bow to your ruling.

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" If the Government really want to support this mill, the only course that is open to them is to advance some more money. Yesterday, curiously enough, the Development Minister said that he wanted twenty lakhs to run this mill. That is what he said. When he was asked wherefrom he got this information, he asked for notice. He did not know wherefrom that information came. One of their own paper experts has stated that three to five lakhs are required for working capital. Now they say all sorts of exaggerated stories only with a view to sell away this mill to a European firm and to induce this House to believe in all things they have stated. So, the adjournment motion is really a motion to express the opinion of this House with regard to the action taken by the Government in this matter."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the business of the House do now adjourn."

* The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Sir, I wish briefly to state the present position in this matter. The position of Government has been explained to the Council in the course of the last adjournment motion debate. They have stated there that Government were not satisfied as to the commercial possibilities of the mills and they had serious doubts as to the correctness of the estimates placed before them by the management of the company. As the most important thing to be done in connexion with the mills appeared to them to be one of efficient management, the Government were making enquiries whether any firm with experience of paper manufacture would be willing to undertake the managing agency of these mills. Several firms were approached but with no practical results. Mr. Natarajan on behalf of the Industrial and Trading Corporation then made an offer to take over the mortgage rights but that was not accepted. At the time, the Government was satisfied as to the credentials which Mr. Natarajan produced. An influential firm also agreed in writing to stand behind the negotiation to the extent of a third (A voice from the Congress benches : Which is the firm ?). The name of the firm is Khaleel Shirazi & Sons of Madras. As it seemed to Government that the proposals were really actuated by a genuine desire to take over the mills and work them, they examined them. Anyhow the question of transfer has now been dropped and as no other course was open to Government, they have given notice to the company that if their dues are not paid, the Government will proceed to exercise the power of sale conferred on them by the mortgage-deed. The period of three months will expire next January. In the meantime the Government have accepted an offer made by Mr. Natarajan on behalf of the Corporation to look after the mills for a monthly sum of Rs. 650. As the Government, ever since they took possession of the mills in March 1928, were incurring a monthly expenditure of Rs. 1,000 on staff and maintenance of machinery, they accepted Mr. Natarajan's offer in the interests of economy. It is not a fact that the Superintendent who was originally at the mills is now denied access to the mills. He is still there in immediate charge of the mills, machinery and buildings (A voice from the Congress benches : Who pays him ?) (He is paid by Mr. Natarajan.)

" As regards the question whether as representative of the Corporation he is the proper person to be entrusted with the supervision of the mills the Government consider that no harm will result by his being in charge of the mills as he has no power either to add to the machinery or remove any portion of it nor can he prevent any other firm wishing to inspect it with a view to

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taking it over from inspecting the mills. The Director is still the controlling authority and Mr. Natarajan works definitely under the orders of the Director. The Government are prepared to give all facilities to any firm or individual who wants to inspect or in any way ascertain the possibility of the mills. If any other economical offer had been forthcoming the Government would certainly have availed themselves of it. It is only in the absence of any alternative the Government had recourse to accept Mr. Natarajan's offer in the interests of economy. If Mr. Natarajan spent any money in carrying out extensive alterations to machinery or adapting buildings or adding new machinery, he does so at his risk, because the mills, to the extent he spends money, will get the benefit of the appreciated value. The Government's interests are perfectly safeguarded under existing arrangements. At the present moment Mr. Natarajan has no interest in the mills. At any time, his agency may be terminated.

"That is the present position, Sir, regarding the mills."

* Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—"Mr. President, Sir, I have very carefully listened to the written statement made by the hon. the Minister for Development. There are two points that stand out prominent in his written speech. One is that they were satisfied with the credentials of this peculiarly interesting gentleman *at the time*. I do not know whether they are still satisfied. The other question that concerns us is what peculiar business this gentleman does when the Director of Industries is practically doing the whole thing there, and the Superintendent of the mill is doing everything. This is an extra office created for no ostensible purpose. That they have not yet disclosed to us and it stands to reason that we should expect the Government to tell us what the particular purpose is for which this gentleman is placed there. He also told us, Sir, that he has the liberty to extend the building or to add to the machinery. When there is adding on, there will be the counterpart of deducting. So, when he has access to the machinery, he can add on to it. When he has the liberty of meddling with the machinery, he may also do things detrimental to those who will be coming hereafter as purchasers. These are questions on which no definite information is given. I hope 3 p.m.
those who come after the hon. Minister to speak on this will explain them. In a matter like this, all passions and provocation should be eliminated; but I am sorry to find that that passion comes from the other side of the House. I can understand if it came from this side, as we represent people who have invested a large sum of money in the business and who have a large stake. Government have not done anything to secure the interests of the mill or of the people."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"May I request the speaker to confine his remarks to Mr. Natarajan."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—"Whatever may be the interest of Mr. Natajan or, for the matter of that, of any officer in it what I want to know is if an offer comes from the public, in the locality itself or from any other firm or from any other gentlemen, on the same terms as those now offered to Mr. Natarjan, whether the Government are prepared to state that they are willing to accept it."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I am afraid the speaker is going beyond the terms of the motion."

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—" I hope they will take us into their confidence and place the matter before the House, in all its bearings before they finally finish the business, and not keep this Mr. Natarajan there a minute longer."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—" I do not want to make a speech. I want to know whether there is anything to prevent this from being thrown open to others, on a reasonable offer, who are willing to work it."

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" Nothing."

Mr. Ramanath Goenka :—" I had no idea to interfere in this debate, but as I heard some very interesting remarks from the hon. the Minister I am forced to say a few words. The hon. the Minister in his speech said that Mr. Natarajan can make some additions or alterations in the mills at his own risk. It is a very funny, and a very damaging statement."

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" I did not say so."

Mr. Ramanath Goenka :—" Sir, he said if he makes any additions or alterations he does so at his own risk. Why should he be allowed to meddle with it, what is the necessity for that statement if there is nothing behind it? Secondly, when I asked the hon. the Minister yesterday about this he said that Mr. Natarajan is appointed as supervisor of the mill. They did not advertise for a supervisor and it is very curious to hear that they appointed him for the sake of economy and that they could not get any other. Did they try to get one on a salary below Rs. 650. They entered into a private arrangement with Mr. Natarajan knowing fully well his real condition. What work is he doing? Is he supervising the mill, or supervising the officers? Nobody knows. Hence I do not think Mr. Natarajan is entitled to a pay of Rs. 650. Was any other firm approached? My friends of the Treasury Bench say that in a matter like this they went round to private persons. I have seen, Mr. President, that these advertisements do not come in public but they go by private arrangement. You remember the cement tender appeared in none of the Madras papers but it appeared in the Calcutta papers. So too they will never advertise in this case but sell the firm to somebody and say that they cannot get anyone. What we want is that they must advertise in the papers. I do not say that the mill is worth four or five lakhs; I am not going into that controversy. As a matter of fact the mill was very badly managed, a lot of money went to the Port Trust and for six months the machine was with the Port Trust. Whether it is correct I do not know. I was told so. But nobody denied it and you cannot deny a fact. As it is, they ought to have advertised for a supervisor and not appointed one on the ground that he is a probable purchaser; for he will say this thing is wrong with the machine, that part is bad, the other part is useless and so on, and thus try to reduce the price of the machine. Therefore I say, Mr. President, so long as Mr. Natarajan is the probable purchaser he should not be in charge of the mill."

Mr. M. Narayana Rao :—" Sir, I think I shall be doing a great injustice if I do not relate my experience gained from my association with Mr. Natarajan for some time. Mr. Natarajan approached me regarding this matter, and even asked me to purchase this concern."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" When was it?"

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Mr. M. NARAYANA RAO :—" In August or July last. Unfortunately or fortunately I come from a family which has had some connexion with the industrial development of this country. I myself happen to be the managing director of a concern which is the premier concern in the Andhra country. So he must have heard of me and he came to me and wanted me to join him in the formation of this new company. He first told me that the Government insisted that one-third of the capital should be found in India; for he said that the Finance Member and some of the Government officials wanted to secure the confidence of the people and that this could be obtained only if one-third of the capital was the concern of the people. I asked for the terms, and thereupon he said, Sir, it was already decided that he should purchase the concern and that Government had decided to sell it to him. I thought he was true and honest and only afterwards I found him false. He told me he had even paid the money to Government. Then I told him that I would have to convene a meeting of the shareholders to see whether they could do something for themselves. I asked him to convene the meeting at Rajamundry, and it was held there and at that meeting Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao, a member of this Council for a long time and who has experience in this business, and Mr. N. Subbarao Pantulu were present. We thought that Government should be approached and asked to give a patient hearing to the shareholders and enable the shareholders to meet and discuss their affairs with the Government. The shareholders were not able to meet and discuss the whole affair for a long time. But the management was in a very bad condition, so much so although requests were made, no meeting was called for and the shareholders were not in a position to try to work the mill. Perhaps if the shareholders are given an opportunity they will be in a position to purchase the mill for this four and a half lakhs for themselves and work it for themselves. My friends are anxious to hear more about Mr. Natarajan. I would request the hon. the Minister to call for a copy of the report which Mr. Pattabhi sent to the Commissioner of Police about Mr. Natarajan, in which his credentials or discredentials (laughter) will be found. Here is a full report sent to me by Mr. Pattabhi. It is a very long report and I cannot read out the whole to the House. I am sorry Sir A. P. Patro is not here. (Laughter.) The old one was called the Indian Industrial Trading Corporation and the present is called Industrial Trading Company. Mr. Natarajan approached one Mr. Subrahmanya Ayyar, a vakil, Sir P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, and others and some of them joined the company and Sir A. P. Patro seems to have taken an interest in the matter. For, after ascertaining the position of the company, Sir A. P. Patro was responsible for the liquidation of the old company, as it was not beneficial to himself or the country. Mr. Natarajan told me that Shirns has offered to take a portion of the capital, i.e., that which is to be subscribed by the Indian people. I talked about the terms and wished to give preference to the old shareholders. He explained to me that $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs is a very small price and the shareholders that would purchase the concern would reap the benefit at least to some extent. So I thought my first duty was to ask the Government to work it themselves. This meeting that I referred to and that was convened at Rajahmundry passed a resolution asking the Government to call for a meeting of the shareholders at which the hon. the Minister for Development might be requested to be present and try and see if the shareholders themselves could work it. A copy of that resolution was sent to

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the hon. the Development Minister and I also had a talk with him about it afterwards. The hon. the Minister said that he had nothing to do with the calling of the meeting, and that either the directors or the shareholders should call for such a meeting, and so on. I told him that the shareholders are anxious to meet and there is nobody to call for a meeting, and I impressed upon him the necessity of calling for a meeting. I think Mr. Anjaneyulu and others were also present at the time. I have not heard anything about it from Mr. Anjaneyulu or anybody afterwards. I also offered that if six months' time were given to me I would try to rally round the shareholders or any new people that may come out with the necessary finance to purchase the concern for the amount that Mr. Natarajan might offer. But the Development Secretary in the presence of the hon. Minister said that I should give a guarantee that if after six months' time I could not purchase the concern, I should pay the penalty, namely, that I should pay whatever the Government might lose on that account. I said that I only wanted somehow or other to see that the shareholders and others are rallied and that something is done in the matter, and that I could not take the risk on myself for any loss to the Government. I am prepared even now, if two or three months' time is given to me, to try to really round the shareholders and also get other people to finance it, and to see that the concern is purchased on the terms offered by Mr. Natarajan. The Government waited already for such a long time and I do not see why the Government should not wait for two or three months more. If they want to sell the concern to Mr. Natarajan they can tell him definitely after two or three months. I am confident that for this $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs people will come forward to purchase. And there is a sort of idea in the people that the Government of the country do not care about the shareholders. There would be a lot of co-operation in the country if sufficient time and opportunities are provided for them. So I would appeal to the hon. the Development Minister to at least wait for these two or three months, to give to the shareholders, through me, an opportunity to try and purchase the concern for themselves. I am surprised to hear that Mr. Natarajan is only a supervisor in the mill. The other day we happened to travel from Ellore to Madras and Mr. Natarajan also happened to be in the same compartment. He told me that he has taken possession of the mill. And incidentally I met Mr. John, Council Secretary to the Development Minister, and I asked him what would happen to the Carnatic Paper Mills. He said the hon. the Minister would visit the place some time next month leisurely and see what could be done. So I put Mr. Natarajan and Mr John face to face and told Mr. Natarajan that the hon. Minister was going to come and look in to the affair some time next month, but he replied that the transaction was closed and added 'we have taken possession of the mill'. I said that Mr. John informed me of the Minister's coming visit. He took Mr. John aside and then came and said to me that the Minister did not know anything about this. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Natarajan told me this after Mr. John went a little bit aside.

" These are the facts and I would ask the hon. the Development Minister to take them for what they are worth, to be more careful about Mr. Natarajan and to see that no rectification or tampering or anything of the kind is done by Mr. Natarajan until it is decided by the Government positively whether to hand over the mill to him or to sell the concern to another body, Indian or

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local. I think the first duty of the Government should be to help the shareholders and if they do not come forward, then offer the mill to any other Indian gentleman or any gentleman of those parts who comes forward and offers to take it. I think, if a Government Order is issued and a proper publication of it is made, the Government will stand to gain and the shareholders will also be benefited by it and"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" On this motion, the hon. Member will be in order only to suggest steps to be taken regarding the employment of Mr. Natarajan."

Mr. M. NARAYANA RAO :—" So, Sir, if Mr. Natarajan is there, it may be difficult for anybody to approach the Government for a purchase as he is himself a purchaser. People who are desirous of purchasing will naturally be suspicious of him as he may put the machinery in disorder. It is natural that one who is there will look to his own interests and people outside will generally think that the man who is there would see that the good parts are concealed. Suppose, I am the likely purchaser and if I go there I would think that Mr. Natarajan has been there for such a long time and he would naturally see that alterations are made to the machine in such a way that I would not be able to run the thing. Suppose, he puts a sort of nail or some such thing somewhere, the whole thing would be gone. Can I purchase a machine when a person who is very anxious himself to purchase it is there? My first duty is to see that nothing is wrong with the machinery. If I want to take the thing as I do at this moment, it would be a lot of trouble to me to see that everything is examined and whether everything is all right or not. So, I would suggest to the hon. the Minister to see to the discontinuance of the appointment of Mr. Natarajan immediately if he cares to obtain other purchasers either from the shareholders or from the local people. I would even go to the extent of saying that even if they are under any agreement to pay anything to him, they may pay him the money due to him free as a kind of charity or anything of that kind and dispense with his services immediately in the interests of the mill and the purchasers that are likely to come hereafter. With these few words, I beg to support this motion."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Sir, I want to say a few words as the matter seems to be assuming a rather serious aspect. I am one of those who think that these adjournment motions are generally of no use whatever, but fortunately for the Government and fortunately for us—fortunately for the Government because they have now a chance of redeeming their reputation if they had any till now—there seems to be some prospect of a little good coming out of the present motion. This motion has made it clear as to why the Government are so anxious to foster this so-called Mr. Nat-Rajan. From the answers given yesterday and from the written statement evidently prepared by the department and read by the hon. the Minister, it seems to be clear that this Mr. Natarajan has nothing to do with this business except as the representative—I do not know in what capacity—of a certain corporation. The whole question is whether this corporation itself will be able to fulfil its duties or whether it has come there simply to do mischief, with a view to do harm to the country or with a view to get new machinery order for England. We have clearly now something on paper that a sum of $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs has been deposited with the Government. I am sure the hon. the Finance Member is going to open his fire now. And instead of firing

children's crackers as usual, it will be better if he takes this House into confidence and gives us some information we are asking for. This is not an ordinary matter. The rate-payers of this Presidency are interested at least to the extent of 7½ lakhs. The four thousand shareholders mostly from the Andhra districts are interested to the extent of about 16 lakhs which they have subscribed in cash. It is therefore desirable to know as to what this new company is, whether this new company will be able to fulfil its portion of the contract. We will be glad to know when this new company was registered, what the registered capital of this company is, what the subscribed and paid-up capital are and so on. It will be very interesting to know as to whether this company is really composed of businessmen who will be able to run this mill. We have more than once said, and we repeat that statement to-day, that the interests of the Government seem to lie in killing this paper industry as they have already killed some other industry in this Presidency and, with a view to prevent Indian shareholders from paying money hereafter for such institutions, simply to encourage Europeans or Europeans' nominees. I shall be glad to have a declaration that I am wrong, in which case I will be pleased to acknowledge that I am wrong, once in my life. Then the further question is, has this sum of 1½ lakhs been given as a portion of the money for fulfilling the contract, or as a guarantee to return this factory, if necessary, in its full original state. If the latter, had anybody examined the various pieces of machinery before we handed them over to Mr. Natarajan? My hon. Friend has referred to the possibility of any mischief being done to the machinery. I know of an instance in a mill in which I am interested. An engineer in charge of a Diesal oil engine was dismissed. A few days afterwards the engine had an explosion, and luckily only a few people were injured, and there was no fatal case. On examination, it was found that some sand had been put inside the engine. This shows that some sand can be deposited in the engine and that it will cause much mischief. We know practically nothing, certainly not much, about Mr. Natarajan. But if his attempts to get hold of this mill are frustrated, I am sure, in his human nature, he may do any mischief and it will certainly prevent prospective purchasers from coming in. My hon. Friend from the north, Mr. Narayana Rao, has made a very serious offer. I, Sir, as one of the humble people taking part in industries will also repeat that offer. The hon. the Finance Member asks me to mention as to what my hon. Friend has offered. My idea was to repeat it not once but two or three times. Once the hon. the President will allow me to repeat, a second time I shall repeat it privately, and a third time I shall repeat it in the hon. Member's chamber. It seems that the contract has been practically settled; but if it has not been settled, we want to know whether there is still some ray of hope that the Government may do something to help this large number of poor shareholders and give them a chance to take it up on the terms which the Government have practically accepted from this company.

3-30 p.m. "My Friend has made an offer that he may be given two months by which time he would try his chance of getting another company or this company itself renewed to purchase this concern for the sum that the corporation, or on behalf of the corporation Mr. Natarajan, is offering. We do think that a concern which has cost nearly Rs. 25 lakhs, a concern for which Mr. Raitt, the Government of India expert, has said that the Government should, as a matter of obligation, pay Rs. 10 lakhs to make it going, a concern like that

must necessarily be worth much more than 4½ lakhs; and certainly some of us interested in Indian industries and some of us who have even burnt our fingers sometimes in such things will be glad to risk a small sum and try to induce other gentlemen to come forward and take it up. I have satisfied myself that if we do it, it will be no risk and people who invest will be benefited. We are repeating this offer, we repeat it on behalf of the shareholders, on behalf of the people living in that locality and in fact on behalf of the whole province. The Government should publish what the terms are. So far as I see, the corporation wants to purchase the whole concern for 4½ lakhs.

"We are told that 1½ lakhs has been deposited; we have not been told as to when the balance is to be paid, and whether the deposit is in the form of security bonds or whether it is in Government bonds or currency notes. I want information as to how the remaining sum of 2½ lakhs is to be paid. If the Government make up their mind to sell this concern we will certainly consider it, but on one condition, that Mr. Natarajan be sent out at once. The hon. the Minister said yesterday that they had entered into an agreement with Mr. Natarajan for three months. It shows the unbusinesslike manner in which one competitor was given an advantage. Probably the Government were obliged to do it without knowing any of the serious consequences that may result from it. Money seems to be flowing freely from the Government in various matters. We know various concerns on which lakhs and lakhs have been thrown away. We have been told that out of three months, one and a half months are gone; if so, we may probably have to give Rs. 1,000 as compensation if we have to send Mr. Natarajan away. The Director of Industries will be able to select one or two people to look after the mill. Any ordinary maistri can do that work. Certainly he will not do mischief. We do repeat if the Government is really honest and fairminded and sincere in their statement that they want to safeguard the interests of the shareholders and the interests of the country, I challenge them to consent to our agreement, that two months and only two months' time be given to the shareholders and other people. The hon. the Minister, the Director of Industries and possibly the Finance Member may grace their meeting and help the shareholders with their advice to somehow or other effect the much-needed salvation.

"Then again, if you are sincere, you can put it up in public auction; you can advertise it and sell it in public auction so that people may come from far and near and take this opportunity. If that is not accepted, allow the shareholders and their friends to accept those terms. Let Government place their cards on the table, let them show their responsibility by giving due publicity to the matter. If they do not give us all possible information, if they do not give an opportunity to men of this province, so far as this industry is concerned, then they will be playing false to themselves and to the province of Madras."

* The ZAMINDAR OF SINGAMPATTI:—"Sir, I desire to speak a few words in this connexion, with your kind permission. Of course, the benign Government has appointed the Ministers on sound considerations and they have some responsibility. The hon. Mr. Seturatnam Ayyar has selected Mr. Natarajan to watch the mill. Well, I have no idea about Mr. Natarajan. (A voice: (Nobody has any.) I can say I have great love for one Natarajan, who is at Chidambaram. (Laughter.) The hon. Members of this House are hammering

on Mr. Natarajan and the Development Minister. I pity them. (A voice: 'Oh!') The hon. Members of this House are crying and crying. Therefore I think there is some case against Mr. Natarajan. But I have got great doubts in my mind about the phrase, i.e., 'watching the mills', and I shall be most thankful to the Minister if he will satisfy me as to what 'watching the mill' is, whether he means, watching the buildings, watching the machinery or what. (Cheers.) Where was the necessity to appoint a man for merely watching the building and machinery? More light ought to be thrown on the real object."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Mr. President, I thought of speaking after the Finance Member has revealed the policy of the Government, but since he has not been pleased to do it, I think I shall refer to a few facts concerning this matter. Sir, Mr. Natarajan came in for a good deal of discussion, and he was dissected clean down to the bone. We will leave him alone. Natarajan is only a pawn in the game. I know more about Khaleel Shirazi than some of the Members there. He is out for a big coup; he is after the paper mills at Rajahmundry. The public by co-operation have raised 20 lakhs and invested their money in it. They want a little more time; they are a little nervous; and is this the time for the Government to discredit that mill and make the public believe that all their money and all their effort are going to end in vain? Are you going to sell away the concern because of the 4½ lakhs due to Government? What is the Government's policy in regard to the planters of Malabar, I ask the gentlemen occupying the Treasury Bench? They gave only a few years ago to the planters Rs. 4,60,000 or Rs. 4,90,000. Did you recover a pie from them? Did you not write off those sums, because those people happened to be your cousins? But when it is a case of Indians starting an infant industry and when they find that their resources are not sufficient and want a little help from you, you say, 'Here are our experts who say it is all bad'."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The discussion is about Mr. Natarajan, the watcher, and the hon. Member is not in order to discuss about other experts."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Mr. President, I am talking of Mr. Natarajan only, and I will end with him. The question arose because the hon. the Minister referred to experts being consulted. I only want to know from the hon. Minister whether any experts from Japan were consulted. They are the best men; you cannot rival the Japanese; for 100 yens you can get down a Japanese expert here. But is the Government prepared to allow that? No. They are always jealous of the Japanese; they are suspicious about them. They want this company to be wound up. They want to decry it and finally arrange to pass it on to a European ring. That is their idea. If they are really inclined to develop this industry, why should they not give it another 4½ lakhs, or wait for some more time instead of shouting out that there is nothing in the mills and they are going to end in smoke? Should that be the attitude of the Government? There is absolutely no case of any industry being ruined by taking some time to rehabilitate itself. On the other hand, the scaremongers who are interested in putting down every Indian concern, are always interested in saying that this thing is going to end and become a failure. That ought not to be the attitude. I have enquired about this Natarajan. He is only a pawn in the big game. (A voice; 'A broker.') Not

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exactly a broker; he was a broker some time before. I think he is helping the Government, and the Government have paid him Rs. 1,000 for looking after the mills, they say. This Natarajan came and said that he would run the whole show for Rs. 650. He is the coloured fly to be used in the big haul. He said he would pay Rs. 350 to the Superintendent, out of Rs. 1,000. He wants this mill to be transferred from the Government to a private agency, so that that private agency may sell it to a ring of Europeans for a higher price. So the man that stands to gain is Khaleel Shirazi. But the poor shareholders are to lose, to the tune of 20 lakhs. Sir, it was represented by an hon. Member of this House already that he could raise the sum and pay the Government if they had a little patience. I will appeal to the hon. the Minister, if he has any interest in Indian concern, to have a little patience and wait. We promise Government to pay them what they have given us." 3-45 p.m.

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"Sir, the debate which was started on a comparatively minor issue in connexion with this mill has raised a considerable number of issues which far transcend the very minor question as to how provisional arrangements should be made for looking after the Government property at Rajahmundry. (Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: Government property?) But before I enter into that question, perhaps I might just make one reference to the speech of the hon. Member from Rajahmundry. I do not know what useful purpose, he thought, would be served by repeating the stale allegations with which he favours this Council on every occasion on which this question of the Carnatic Paper Mills arises. A suggestion was made that Government, and myself in particular, were even more Machiavellian and more wicked than he previously suggested; that when we made the loan around which so many complications have grown to this enterprise, we were deliberately aiming at entangling this concern in the clutches of the Government so that now, in this year of grace 1928, four years later, we might step in and secure a very valuable property on behalf of the tax-payers. Well, at any rate, I may say that he was entirely wrong in imputing that to me, because I was not a Member of the Government when that loan was made.

"Now, I would turn to the question of Mr. Natarajan. So far as I know, Mr. Natarajan's position is that of an agent for certain financial interests which are interested in the paper industry and which are looking round for a possibility of investing money in India in that industry. (Cries of 'hear, hear.') He was appointed agent on behalf of certain financial interests to enquire into the matter. I understand that those whom he represents have got financial support behind them even in Madras City which is prepared, if necessary, to give guarantees or to take part in this venture. Naturally, men of business do not invest their money in a concern without making some enquiries into it. If they were going to invest money in a concern such as the Carnatic Paper Mills, naturally, they would like to make a thorough examination of the properties, consider the prospects, make some estimates for themselves as to where it is defective, what additional machinery would have to be purchased and how the concern would have to be adapted to their conception of the way in which the paper industry could be run in that particular place. (Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan: And the Government pays for it Rs. 650 a month.) That, of course, takes some time. My hon. Colleague was of opinon that their interest in this concern was perfectly genuine and, that being so, it was perfectly natural that they should ask for an opportunity of examining the whole concern. At the time they asked for this opportunity,

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it was costing the Government Rs. 1,000 a month for the maintenance of the staff and establishment necessary merely to keep the machinery in good order. They offered to undertake that duty which was costing the Government as I said Rs. 1,000 a month if we would pay them Rs. 650 a month. (Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao: And to sit on the property ?)"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"May I ask, Sir, that I may not be interrupted ? I should have thought better of the Deputy Leader of the Opposition. (Mr. S. Satyamurti: He does not know what parliamentary manners are.) The sum of Rs. 650 is of course quite a bagatelle even for three months. But after all, it is to be considered as a saving in respect of this unremunerative enterprise. There was no reason why the Finance Member should object to a proceeding of that kind provided that there was the necessary safeguard. (Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan: Pennywise policy.) What were the possible risks ? It is suggested that this staff or establishment would indulge in throwing sand into the boilers and into the machinery. To what purpose ? (Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: To scare away possible purchasers.) They are anxious to purchase this concern. The minimum terms on which the Government would accept their offer are known to them. Why then do they want to scare away prospective purchasers and do damage to what might some day become their own property ? Will any businessman suggest that this is a reasonable proceeding ? Would Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar, one of the leading businessmen in South India himself, do a thing of that kind which would depreciate the value of the property which he can keep for himself with beneficial results ?"

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"A word of personal explanation, Sir. I would do it if I know where the sand is to be put in the machinery so that, if and when I get the machinery, I could remove it without danger and without any great expense."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"I am not a judge of these matters of commercial morality. But I do not believe Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar, knowing as I do his reputation in the business world."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The debate is assuming more the shape of a dialogue. I do not like that we should allow the debate to degenerate into a dialogue."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"To return, Sir. By this arrangement we make a small saving and were in a position to satisfy the people whom Mr. Natarajan represents about the condition and value of the property. Apart from that, the concern did not pass into the hands of Mr. Natarajan. It is still, and it has been ever since the troubles connected with it arose, under the direct supervision of the Director of Industries who is responsible to Government for seeing that the terms of the arrangement with Mr. Natarajan on behalf of his principals are carried out in full. (Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: What are those terms ?) I think it is a pity I am not conversant with all the details. (Laughter.) My hon. Colleague whose concern they are will be able to give you the details. (Mr. S. Satyamurti: Why not leave it to him ?)"

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*The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Order, order. The hon. Member will kindly resume his seat. If the Opposition cannot tolerate the speech of the hon. the Finance Member who is also concerned in the matter of the dues, I do not think the House will at all be benefited by this debate."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"I may say, Sir, that the arrangement was entered into for a period of three months. I understand that that period expires on the 1st of January and that we are at perfect liberty to terminate that arrangement at any date which may suit our own convenience. A very important point, because, as I shall explain, our position is entirely open and if any offer is made to us which suggests that we can at once dispense with the services of Mr. Natarajan and the interest which he represents, I have no doubt my hon. Colleague would be entirely willing to do so. But we have not been debating this very minor issue of keeping the machinery in order. What we are really debating and have been debating is the future of the Carnatic Paper Mills. That is the real issue and I think every one knows it. Perhaps I may be permitted to say a few words on that issue.

"I do not want once again to traverse the somewhat melancholy history of this enterprise. It has been expounded, I think, on more than one occasion on the floor of this House. It was started, let us admit, by amateurs in an amateurish way and that although it is a highly specialized and technical industry. It is perhaps no wonder that the original company failed to make good. Government too, possibly, at that time were not fully conversant with all the factors that were essential to considerations of an enterprise of this kind. But they did advance a very considerable sum of money to that enterprise on the assurance of those who were at that time responsible for its conduct. I do not wish to go into every stage of the proceedings, but, more and more it became apparent that the enterprise and the company were not going to make good. It was also evident and becoming more and more clear that none of those connected with that enterprise had any knowledge or experience which was essential if it was ever going to succeed. On that basis, were the Government going to continue to pour in lakhs of the taxpayers' money? Personally I do not think that the Government would have been justified, and I do not think that any Member of this House would accept the proposition that they would have been justified if they had advanced more lakhs to a concern of which they were convinced that under the conditions then existing there was no chance of its coming to a successful issue.

"That view was endorsed by the shareholders themselves. They refused 4 p.m.
to invest another rupee into the concern. The hon. Member from Rajahmundry shakes his head but the fact remains that they declined to do so and have continued to do so. Therefore if there was any chance of this industry being placed on its legs it could not be through the agency of those in whose control it was, either the shareholders or the Director. Government had also learnt this and they realized that they too were in the same position as the shareholders. The Government were still the custodians of the taxpayers' money and they were faced by two issues. One was how to reduce the loss to the tax-payers as much as possible and the second was how, if possible, to enable this concern to be resumed and conducted under new auspices. Obviously the two go together. As the Government could not run it, what they wanted to do was to dispose of this concern to people who

would run it and who would be prepared to pay to the Government the largest sum possible in order to enable them to acquire the right to do so."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Not the shareholders."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" The hon. Member refers to shareholders. This matter has been under discussion, I suppose, for the last two years. Have any shareholders come forward with any offer to pay to the Government what they owe or to pay to them even the equivalent of the sum which the Government might get from other interests in order that they might constitute a concern free of all liabilities either to the Government or to any one else ?".

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member has already exceeded the time-limit."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I have very little more to say. If my hon. Colleague were here he would explain that these were the only financial interests that came forward to make an offer at all. That offer was that they would pay 4½ lakhs to the Government—this was to be cash down—if they could establish a clear right to the property, that is to say, they would take over the concern when Government had established its right for a sum of 4½ lakhs. In other words the total loss incurred by Government would be reduced by that amount."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" The shareholders would go to the walls."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" The hon. Member does not surely suggest that we are not going to pay further moneys to the shareholders. The property is Government's. In any case the present arrangement is a matter which does not extend beyond another six weeks.

" With reference to another question of Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar as to whether we have entered into a contract which binds us, I may say that we have absolutely a free hand. At the close of this period of three months Government will be in absolute possession of this mill and are entitled to dispose it to any interests, whether it be shareholders, whether it be Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar or whether it be any other interests in Madras or elsewhere."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" With Mr. Natarajan in possession ! "

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I have already stated that we are entitled to get rid of Mr. Natarajan at any time that suits our convenience and if we thought that the retention of Mr Natarajan or the interests he is representing was going to interfere or prejudice any negotiations with interests with which we are better acquainted, whether it be shareholders or anybody else, then we shall not hesitate to get rid of Mr. Natarajan as an impediment to our carrying on such negotiations. We are not only entirely free to take such a course, but we would prefer, if it were possible, to free this concern and then entrust it to any interests which are derived from this Presidency."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member has exceeded the time-limit."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I shall finish my speech in a minute, Mr. President."

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" There is no discretion vested in the President to allow an hon. Member to exceed his time-limit during the debate on adjournment motions."

(The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir then closed his speech.)

* The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" In view of the expression of opinion in this House I am prepared to say that steps will be taken immediately to stop the employment of Mr. Natarajan and that Government will take steps very soon to frame and make known the conditions and the period during which the shareholders or others may have an opportunity to pay off such amount as the Government fixes to liquidate the loan due to them."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" It comes to me as a somewhat agreeable surprise that the Government have come out with a statement that they will put an end to the employment of Mr. Natarajan and also consider the conditions and the time during which the shareholders may find it convenient to negotiate with the Government for the payment of such amounts that are said to be due to the Government by the shareholders and which were advanced to them as loans. In view of that statement and also in view of the optimism, perhaps the little that I possess in this Government, that this promise would be kept up, I have much pleasure to beg leave of the House to withdraw my motion."

The motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The Council will now resume debate on the resolution of Mr. Bheemayya."

III—*cont.*

APPOINTMENT OF A COMMITTEE TO ENQUIRE INTO THE ECONOMIC CONDITION OF KISTNA, GODAVARI EAST AND GODAVARI WEST—*cont.*

* The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Mr. President, Sir, this motion proposes a recommendation to the Government that a committee be appointed for the purpose of making an open public enquiry into the economic condition of the tract as preliminary to the resettlement of the districts of Godavari East, Godavari West and Kistna and goes on to recommend that the resettlement scheme report of the Kistna, West Godavari and East Godavari be held in abeyance pending that enquiry.

" Now, Sir, I have considerable difficulty in making any remarks about this resolution as none of the members who spoke indicated clearly the scope of the enquiry desired. It is easy to suggest an economic enquiry but the term covers many descriptions of enquiry and covers a varied field. My further difficulty is how exactly the House considers—I mean those who have proposed and supported this motion have considered—that such an enquiry will have a bearing on the question of resettlement. I would in the first place very briefly invite their attention to the main principles of land revenue settlement in this Presidency. The basis on which land revenue assessment in this Presidency is made is the proposition that the State is entitled to a share of the crop from the land. It is not based on any consideration of the circumstances of the holders of lands. We do not make any difference whether a land is held by a rich man or a poor man. The assessment is made

with reference to the capacity of the land and not with reference to the circumstances of anybody who holds the land. It will therefore not be relevant to the question of assessment as one hon. Member has suggested to consider the share of produce that will remain to each individual after meeting his ordinary expenditure. Another point that should be noticed is, as in fact the Mover or the seconder of that resolution pointed out, that the capacity of the land was estimated with reference to the outturn of the principal crops raised on the land and the assessment was fixed on that basis many years ago. Now that thirty years have elapsed since we made the last settlement we are now considering whether there is any reason why the rates should not be revised either by raising them or lowering them. As some of the hon. Members pointed out there is no statutory law on the subject, yet the rules under which resettlements are carried out are perfectly well known and have not been altered for very many years. In fact one hon. Member who wanted to point out the
4-15 p.m. possibility of these rules being changed had to go back forty years to find an example. These rules again are perfectly clear. The main consideration in dealing with the question of revising the money rates of assessment is whether there has been any change in the general price of agricultural produce of the lands in question during the term of the settlement. Generally, therefore at resettlements the question of economic condition would not come into great prominence were it not for the fact that in recent years the prices have risen very much indeed. So much so that if we were to adopt the present rates as commutation rates, the money rates would be more than doubled. Therefore it is quite obvious that however correct it may be in theory that the ryot should give the same share of the crop to the State, in practice it is found that you cannot upset a man's expenditure by doubling the payment in that way. In recent years, accordingly it has become a feature of resettlement reports to consider how much of this increase it would be practicable to take having regard to the general progress of the tract: and recent settlement reports deal with the various economic considerations with that object. It has never been a principle of the Madras settlements that we should base our rates with reference to the net income, if I may say so, of individuals. I do not mean to belittle in any way the importance of such economic considerations in making alterations whatever they may be in the demand we make from the ryots; I only wish to point out the bearing of those considerations in any settlement scheme.

"Now, there are instructions as to the extent to which the settlement officer should make this enquiry and they have been embodied in the Settlement Manual. The settlement officer in this particular locality took up his duties some three or four years ago and has been working there, not secretly, but perfectly openly to the full knowledge of the ryots. And it is rather strange that after four years we should be asked what he has been doing and be told that nobody has been aware of it. The material he has collected is of two classes, one containing statistics compiled from public records and registers which contain information as to the prices, the cultivation and irrigation figures and so forth for a series of years and the other based on the enquiries in the villages regarding the circumstances of individual ryots. Another important class of statistics is the information based on documents in the registration offices. All these are useful in giving us a general idea of the economic condition of the tract. More than one member complained that these enquiries

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have not been made. I find that these enquiries have been made in a considerable number of villages with great elaboration. Of course they have not been printed or published, partly because it would constitute a great volume of papers in which people up to now have not shown any interest, and partly because they contain details of the private circumstances of individual people. Therefore a very large amount of material having bearing on the economic condition of the tract is available. Of course the speakers would draw different inferences from those drawn by the Settlement Officer from the same materials. This is of course quite natural. You will not expect everybody to draw the same inference from any set of economic data. And it is just that criticism which the Government desired to invite when they published the report for criticism. They have placed on the table the details of the names of the villages where such information was gathered and the instructions which the Settlement Officer issued for the guidance of those who made enquiries in the villages. I am perfectly willing to place before any hon. Member who desires it the details of the various enquiries which are in pamphlets of the kind I hold in my hand. If hon. Members examine them, they will be in a better position to formulate their arguments as to whether the circumstances are such as would make it undesirable to raise the money rates although the increase in prices has been so much as 100 per cent and over. If, however, you say that an open enquiry should be made into the economic condition of the tract by a committee, I do not know what should be understood by it and what lines the committee is to follow. Such a proposal was made some years ago during the old Council when His Excellency the Governor presided. I should like just to read to you what Lord Pentland said on the subject—

'Government are anxious to know the truth; the whole substance of the opposition to this resolution has been the danger of deductions from incomplete facts and incomplete premises. That is the whole fact. The hon. Gentleman speaks as if economic enquiries are the easiest thing to be taken up. They are extremely complex and extremely delicate and require to be conducted by most skilled and impartial investigaters; they are purely scientific operations and economic enquiries should be properly conducted. It would take a very long time, I think, before an economic investigation can be useful so as to enable us to base any large changes of policy on them.'

"At that time the Council resolved finally that there should merely be an examination of a few typical family budgets in connexion with resettlement and that is what has been done in connexion with the present settlement in the enquiries which I have just indicated. As I have said before any inference we may draw from any economic enquiry we may make can only have a general bearing on the question of resettlement.

"After all, except in isolated cases where you have supplied irrigation where formerly it was unirrigated there has been, so far as we know and unless the contrary can be deduced from any figures that we have got, no alteration in the productivity of the land. Logically, therefore, it would follow that the share of the Government represents a much larger number of rupees now than it did 30 years ago since the prices have doubled. Bearing in mind however the danger of upsetting the individual's expenditure by a sudden increase (as the House is aware) the Government have limited any increase in the demand to 18¾ per cent.

"Although prices have risen by 100 per cent the proposal of the Settlement Officer is to raise the rates by only 18¾ per cent. We should want a very strong body of evidence to show that it is undesirable to make this comparatively small increase in the money rates representing, as it does, really 4-30 p.m.

a considerable decrease in the share of the crop which has to be contributed to the State. (Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—That is why the enquiry is asked for.) But you have the material there. It has not been indicated in what respect the material is wanting because you have not read it fully and you have not considered it. I am quite willing to make it more available to any of the Members who are interested in it and who want to study it and see what conclusions should be drawn from it. There is another passage relating to this matter on which I cannot lay my hands at present. Its general effect is that an economic enquiry is not of a nature which can be conducted, like a criminal case or a suit for partition, by examination of witnesses and by leading evidence. (A voice :—Do it scientifically.) It has to be done scientifically. I would refer hon. Members to the economic enquiries and economic studies prepared by Mr. Gilbert Slater and his students ; hon. Members will see that studies of that nature cannot be conducted by holding a public enquiry as suggested. It needs more detailed work and study. Even when we get such information it is not clear that it will be particularly useful to the problem before us, which is whether, as the result of great rise in prices, we should take a fraction more of the existing money rates of assessment and if so, what that fraction should be. I am quite anxious and willing to make available any information that we have and there is a very great deal to Members interested and desirous of studying it or to the representation of the Ryots Association. I do not see there would be any use in appointing a committee to tour in the three districts in the manner suggested."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Sir, I have listened very carefully to the somewhat unusually long speech of the hon. the Revenue Member in opposing this motion. I have heard every word of what he said which other Members would not have, because I am just opposite to him. But his argument is quite simple. 'The State is entitled to a share of the produce. The State is not interested—at any rate not for the purpose of these resettlements—in the actual economic condition of the ryot. He may be very poor ; he may be starving ; he may be dying. I must have my pound of flesh. Statistics show that prices have doubled , therefore, I must have a share. I have been over-generous ; I ought to have doubled the assessment. But look at my generosity ; instead of getting the 100 per cent increase to which I am rightfully entitled, I have shown you generosity by limiting my demand to $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. Therefore come down on your knees and thank the heavens that Sir Norman Marjoribanks is the Revenue Member. In his generosity and kindness for the ryots of these three districts he has agreed to give up $81\frac{1}{4}$ per cent and is willing to have only $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.' But, Sir, that argument is so unsound that he himself does not believe it, and that his Government do not act upon it. This is borne out by the remarks of the Settlement Officer in the scheme report, by his own speech and by precedents in this matter. It is not safe, it is said, that the Government should make enquiries into the economic condition of the ryots. I would invite the attention of the House to the statement of the Settlement Officer in his own recommendations. He says 'that trade and commerce have increased and that considerable improvement of communications have been proved ; considerably more monies have been spent on luxuries.' Is it the result of an economic enquiry or not? Then we are told that coercive processes have affected only a small fraction of the total revenue. Incidentally, I may mention, Mr. President, for the benefit of the ryots of this Province that, if they are regular and

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voluntary in the payment of the revenue, the Government are likely to be less merciful and that the ryots would get less kind treatment at the hands of the Government. This is a cynical statement. It is an invitation to the ryots of the districts to commit deliberate default and invite coercive processes so that the Government may not, on actual facts and figures also, be able to say that people have paid regularly and voluntarily; therefore they can afford to pay more. It is an incentive not to pay taxes regularly. I do not know if the Government realize the implications of this statement. The Settlement Officer says that, in certain respects, the economic condition of the agricultural public is sounder than before. How did he come to this conclusion? It is not based on some economic enquiry. Therefore, if my hon. Friend, the Revenue Member's argument is sound, all these statements are wholly irrelevant. Then, Sir, the Settlement Officer says 'I make this recommendation on my general knowledge of conditions in the delta and on the basis of the records of the economic enquiries carried by myself and my assistants.' The Government have used other economic enquiries; but they say 'yes; these are enquiries conducted by our officers and their assistants.' When an ex-parte statement like that is printed and placed before the Government they accept it. But when the Council asks for a committee, they say the committee can do nothing at all.

" But, Sir, I join issue with my hon. Friend even on the major premises. I do not think even the Government of Madras who are obsessed by this theory that the State is entitled to a share of the produce irrespective of the economic condition of the ryots cannot go on increasing the land revenue. They will find all the elected Members of the Council and almost all the nominated Members rising up against them, if they venture to lay down such a dictum and to enforce any such doctrine on the poorest ryots of this province.

" Then Sir, this argument of rise in prices is mostly misleading. I am sure the Revenue Member knows it. He talks with his tongue in his cheek if he really believes that this rise in prices justifies an arbitrary increase. For the present purpose, there are three classes of ryots who pay land revenue. There is the first and the largest class which has no grain to sell. The rise in prices cannot really benefit them. It can only benefit those ryots and those producers who can actually have enough for themselves and their families to eat and subsist from year's end to year's end and who can have a surplus to sell in the market. That class practically exhausts the very large majority of ryotwari patta-holders throughout this province. Then, Sir, we have the second class who can spare some grain to sell and that class is, what may be called, the lower middle class, to use a loose phraseology. If it gets some more money by increase in the price of grain, it loses it all by having to pay a higher price for those things which any middle class family must have in these days and the result, the net result, is they have no profit to make at all. There is a small class, I agree, at the very top who make some money out of the rise in prices. If any system can be devised by which that unearned increment may be taxed, I may be for it, speaking for myself. But the present system works unmercifully on all alike and the poorest man has got to pay, proportionately, exactly the same as the richest man in the district has got to pay. This theory is inhuman. This matter has been fully exposed by Sir O'Moore-Creagh, late Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's forces in

India. In a book he has written, a man like O'Moore-Creagh has exploded this theory of the rise in prices justifying a rise in land revenue."

"Then the hon. the Revenue Member was good enough to make another statement which I am repeating for your sake, and for the sake of this House. He said that the Government did not want to upset the expenditure of any man by doubling his land revenue at once. If you do not want to upset the expenditure of any man, if you pause to calculate, in the case of thousands and thousands of these ryots even this $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent increase may not only upset the balance but make it impossible to keep body and soul together from year's end to year's end. He also stated that you must decide how much of the increase is practicable to take. I think I am not misquoting him; he used the word 'practicable.' I want to know if it is practicable for a wise and responsible Government to attach and sell the produce of a ryot, according to well-recognized canons of civilized Government and whether it is practicable for a human Government to make a man and his wife and children starve and take the money in order that you may spend it on the luxuries of the Government. On a matter of that kind I am sure that even the hon. the Revenue Member must concede that elected Members of this Council and those who may be nominated to this committee have at least as much right and as much honesty as any Government Member or any Government officer and the resolution asks for nothing more or nothing less.

"Then, Sir, he referred to the Settlement Officer's enquiry and made much of it. I want to know what those enquiries were, whether any notice was given to the ryots concerned and whether enquiries were made of them directly. Then he quoted Lord Pentland as suggesting that economic enquiries can never be a basis for increased resettlement. Then why make points about it? Let it be stated 'we have got the power; we therefore propose to raise the land revenue; pay or die.' But, on the other hand, if your idea is to have some kind of economic enquiry, there is no use of quoting Lord Pentland and fighting shy of this resolution which only wants an open economic enquiry. (A voice:—What does the word 'open' mean?) My hon. Friend wants to know what 'open' means. Let him ask Sir John Simon who has used the words 'joint, free, open conference' as to what those words mean.

"My hon. Friend, the Revenue Member, said that he was willing to give these figures to such Members of the Legislative Council as may want them; but he cannot allow a committee to go about collecting these figures. It seems to me that he made the worst possible case against a resolution of this kind. In fact my hon. Friend was never so long as he was to-day; he was barren of evidence; he had no arguments. When he took 20 minutes to make out a simple case according to him, that shows that he had no argument really to advance.

"Our trouble would have been easier but for the intervention of the Chairman of the Simon Committee of the Madras Legislative Council. That friend has made up his mind that, except in his own committee of which he happens to be the Chairman, he has lost all faith in mixed committees. What is his committee, if not a very mixed committee which consists of one parliamentary committee as it is called, with him? He has such faith in that enquiry which the people of the country do not want and of which he is admittedly an impotent member.

"If he could have such faith in that committee which the people of the country do not want and of which he is admittedly an impotent member, I ask how does it lie in his mouth to state that a mixed committee consisting of hon. Colleagues of his in this Council and the several others will serve any purpose whatever on these committees? Then, Sir, he lectured to us on the want of public spirit on our part, that we should ourselves come forward and conduct these enquiries . . . " 4-45 p.m.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member has already exceeded his time-limit."

* Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"I shall just say a few words, Mr. President. The hon. the Revenue Member was pleased to adumbrate a very strange principle indeed, viz., that the State is entitled to a share of the produce and that they are entitled to take their share irrespective of the economic condition of the holders of the land. This was condemned by Lord Salisbury, the Secretary of State for India, about 50 years ago. He condemns that principle in the following terms in his despatch.

"If we say that it is rent an official in India will hold the Government in strictness entitled to all that remains after wages and profits have been paid and he will do what he can to hasten the advent of the day when the State shall no longer be kept by any weak compromises from the enjoyment of its undoubted rights. If we persuade him that it is revenue he will note the vast disproportion of its incidence compared to that of other taxes and his efforts will tend to remedy the inequality and to lay upon other classes and interests a more equitable share of the fiscal burden. I prefer the latter tendency to the former. So far as it is possible to change the Indian fiscal system it is desirable that the cultivator should pay a smaller proportion of the whole national charge. It is not in itself a thrifty policy to draw the mass of revenues from the rural districts where capital is scarce, sparing the towns where it is often redundant and runs to waste in luxury. The injury is exaggerated in the case of India where so much of the revenue is exported without a direct equivalent. As India must be bled, the lancet should be directed to the parts where blood is congested or at least sufficient, not to those who are already feeble from the want of it."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"May I ask the hon. Member to give me the reference?"

* Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"Despatch of the Secretary of State for India, Lord Salisbury, about the year 1875 or so—I do not remember the exact year. This is only an extract from it from which I am reading. I shall give the reference later on.

"Ever since that time, it is not followed in practice. Though it is not put on paper, the State has not been following the principle that the State is strictly entitled to its share of the produce irrespective of the capacity of the landholder. That being so, it is necessary to go into the economic condition of the people. That is why, as a matter of fact, in resettlements, an enquiry is being held by the Government into the economic condition of the people.

"The hon. the Revenue Member was pleased to state that in regard to the cope of the proposed enquiry, no suggestions were made by the speakers. I shall just give the headings, for the information of my hon. Friend and of he House, of points which were not touched by the resettlement officer. He

[Mr. D. Narayana Raju] [28th November 1928

did not examine the health conditions of the locality, the standards of life of the people, the income necessary for the maintenance of a family, etc. These were pointed out in my letter to the Government in reply to a query on the subject. I do not however want to take the time of the House by going through all those things in detail.

"The hon. the Revenue Member was also pleased to say that the resettlement rules are perfectly well known and though there has been no publication, the people must have come forward before the Settlement Officer and placed the facts before him. This aspect of the matter was condemned by no less an authority than the Joint Parliamentary Committee. They say that the settlement rules are often very obscure and not understood by the people at large and therefore there should be a statute simplifying the procedure.

"My hon. Friend also stated in another connexion, in replying to some of my questions put on the floor of this House, that the Settlement Officer's report itself could not be understood by the people at large, that only some people could understand it, and that he would therefore get prepared a summary of its contents, so as to be understood by the people. The resettlement rules are very technical and are not well understood as a matter of fact.

"My hon. Friend also stated that the material gathered by the Settlement Officer is available for examination; but the whole question is that the material that is really necessary to find out the real economic condition of the people has not been collected by the Settlement Officer. In order to collect such material, a committee is necessary. The material already collected is not quite sufficient. Further, by looking simply at the material and the results of the enquiry, we cannot contradict them. We must have an opportunity to get the materials that will go to contradict the facts stated in the report. If we take up only the material already collected, they may lead only to the inferences drawn by the Settlement Officer. With such material as the Government have placed before us, we cannot know the exact condition of the ryots. Therefore, Sir, I support the motion."

Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed :—"I move for a closure, Sir."

Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao :—"I second it."

The closure motion was put to the House and carried.

The hon. the President :—"The question is—

* *That this Council recommends to the Government that—*

'(a) for the purpose of making an open public enquiry into the economic condition of the tract as preliminary to the resettlement of the districts of Godavari East, Godvari West and 'Kistna, Government be pleased to constitute a committee not less than half of the members of which being elected by this Council ; and

'(b) pending the said enquiry, the resettlement scheme report of the Kistna, West Godavari and East Godavari districts be held in abeyance.'"

The resolution was put to the House and carried.

The Council then adjourned at 4-53 p.m., to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

28th November 1928]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 757-C asked by Mr. D. Narayana Raju at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th November 1928, page 282 supra.]

Extract from letter from the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, No. 2022-5, Public, dated 25th October 1928, to the Secretary, Madras Provincial Committee.

In Resolution* No. 4 received with Sir A. P. Patro's letter of October 10th the Committee ask that they should receive the same scale of emoluments, travelling allowance and other allowances as the Indian Central Committee presided over by Sir Sankaran Nayar. I am to point out that the conditions under which Sir Sankaran Nayar's Committee are called to work are very different from those applicable to the Provincial Committee. The Indian Central Committee is required to accompany the Indian Statutory Commission on tour throughout India and Burma, and this entails upon them the devotion of the whole time of the Chairman and Members to the duties they have undertaken; it also imposes on them considerable extra expenses in hotel charges and the like. The Provincial Committee, on the other hand, will not so far as the Government is aware be required to tour to any extent, and their journeys, if any, will be confined to the limits of the Presidency, and will ordinarily have to be undertaken only to enable the Members to attend meetings at Madras. The Committee, moreover, is one appointed by the Legislative Council and it appears to the Government appropriate that the allowances granted to its Chairman and Members should be those ordinarily admissible to the Members of the Legislative Council when employed on the work of committees so appointed.

* That this Committee be allowed to draw the same scale of emoluments, travelling and other allowances as the Indian Parliamentary Committee.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

[28th November 1928

Appendix II.

[Vide answer to question No. 787 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th November 1928, page 317 supra.]

Statement showing the number of Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors and petty yard officers employed in the Fisheries Department on the West Coast and the communities to which they belong.

	Inspectors.	Sub-Inspectors.	Petty yard officers.
Brahman	...	4	...
Nayars	...	4	11
Thiyyas	1	6	3
Ballavas	...	2	1
Fishermen	2	8	5
Indian Christian	...	6	2
Muhammadans	...	..	4
Total ...	3	30	26

Appendix III.

[Vide answer to question No. 791 asked by Mr. K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th November 1928, page 319 supra.]

Copy of the resolution passed at the Mirasidars' meeting held under the presidency of M.R.Ry. M. Rama Ayyar Avargal on the 29th October 1927 at Mudikondan, Tanjore district.

1. Whereas our Presidency had been able to spend Rs. 959·33 lakhs ever since 1919–20 with its own finance which was not in any way lower than that of other provinces ;

2. Whereas the income of our province had been increased, since the whole amount under the heads of land, stamp and excise had been transferred from the Imperial Government to our province owing to the introduction of the new reforms ;

3. Whereas our Government has further increased the court-fees and stamp duties ;

4. Whereas our Government has begun to spend extravagantly all the amount which has come up to Rs. 1,416·96 lakhs during 1925–26 from Rs. 959·33 lakhs, through the various ways mentioned above ;

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5. Whereas the Imperial Government has further allowed us to have the provincial contributions amounting to Rs. 348 lakhs which has hitherto been paid to them to ourselves;

6. Whereas the expenditure upon the establishment of our Government has increased from Rs. 468·96 lakhs in 1917–18 to Rs. 762·23 lakhs in 1925–26;

7. Whereas many quarters and bungalows for officials are being built year after year;

8. Whereas many elementary schools and some hospitals have no buildings of their own in our province;

9. Whereas the ryotwari landholders of our province are being burdened with heavy taxation through periodical settlements when the financial exigencies do not necessitate such enhanced taxation;

10. Whereas the rural population of our province is suffering from lack of facilities in regard to sanitation, agriculture and communications;

11. Whereas a motion for a supplementary grant out of the abovementioned Rs. 348 lakhs is to be placed before the Legislative Council; and

12. Whereas reduction in the ryotwari land tax is already overdue and the reconstruction of rural parts is absolutely necessary, the amount now on hand is to be beneficially utilized:

This public meeting held at Mudikondan, Tanjore district, requests that the Government should order a public inquiry by a mixed body of officials, and non-officials, into the just and proper expenditure hitherto spent and to suggest sound methods to utilize the above said Rs. 348 lakhs and also strongly protests against allowing any amount of expenditure from it, prior to the committee's recommendations.

M. Rama Ayyar,
President

வாய்மையே வெல்லும்
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

CORRIGENDUM.

Proceedings of the Legislative Council of the Governor of Madras.

Thursday, the 29th November 1928.

Vol. XLV. No. 4.

In the Poll list printed at page 521, under Ayes—

For "50. Mr. T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar," *read* "50. Rao Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar".

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Council.

21*st December* 1928.

தமிழ்நாடு சட்டமன்றப் பேரவை
TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
வாய்மையே வெல்லும்
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 29th November 1928.

The House met at 11 o'clock, the President (the hon. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU Garu) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Marjoribanks, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Norman.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. T. E.
Krishnan Nayar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur M.
Subbarayan, The hon. Dr. P.
Muthiah Mudaliyar, The hon. Mr. S.
Seturatnam Ayyar, The hon. Mr. M. R.
Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Abdul Razack Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur S. K.
Adinarayana Chettiyar, Mr. T.
Anantakrishna Ayyar, Rao Bahadur C. V.
Anjaneyulu, Mr. P.
Appavu Chettiyar, Mr. C. D.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.
Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Bazl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, C.I.E., O.B.E., Khan Bahadur Muhammad.
Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu, Mr. P.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.
Bheemayya, Mr. J.
Biswanath Das Mahasayo, Sriman.
Corley, Mr. F. E.
Cotton, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. C. W. E.
Dorai Raja, Rajkumar S. N.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur S.
Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C.
Foulkes, Mr. R.
Gangadhara Siva, Mr. M. V.
Gnanavaram Pillai, Mr P. J.
Gopala Menon, Mr. C.
Govindaraja Mudaliyar, Mr. C. S.
Guruswami, Rao Sahib L. C.
Hampayya, Rai Sahib M.
Harisarvottama Rao, Mr. G.
John, Mr. V. Ch.
Kaleswara Rao, Mr. A.
Karant, Mr. K. R.
Kesava Pillai, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur P.
Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur, Muhammad.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnan, Mr. K.
Krishnaswami Nayakar, Mr. K. V.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.
Kuppuswami, Mr. J.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
Mallayya, Dr. B. S.
Manikkavelu Navakar, Mr. M. A.
Marudavanam Pillai, Mr. C.
Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S. Muhammad.
Muniswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur B.
Muniswami Pillai, Mr. V. I.
Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara, The
Muthuranga Mudaliyar, Mr. C. N.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narayana Raju, Mr. D.
Narayanan Chettiyar, Mr. Al. Ar.
Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
Parasurama Rao Pantulu, Mr. A.
Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Raja of Panagal, K.C.I.E.
Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. K.
Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramanath Goenka, Mr.
Ramasomayajulu, Mr. C.
Ramjee Rao, Mr. V.
Ratnasabapathi Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C. S.
Robertson, Mr. R. J. C.
Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Sarabha Reddi, Mr. K.
Satyamurti, Mr. S.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Sitarama Reddi, Rao Bahadur K.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Slater, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. S. H.
Smith, Mr. W. E.
Soundarapandya Nadar, Mr. W. P. A.
Souter, I.C.S., Mr. C. A.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. R.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Subrahmanya Moopanar, Mr. S.
Swami, Mr. K. V. R.
Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur, Nattam Dubash Kadir Sahib.
Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Syed.
Tampoe, I.C.S., Mr. A. McG. C.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Tulasiram, Mr. L. K.
Uppi Sahib Bahadur, K.
Vanavudaiya Goundar, Mr. S. V.
Venkatapati Raju, Mr. P. C.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.
Venkatarangam Nayudu, Mr. C.
Venkiah, Mr. S.
Watson, I.C.S., Mr. H. A.
Wright, Mr. W. O.
Zamindar of Kallikota.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
Zamindar of Seithur
Zamindar of Singampatti.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Mr. President, may I make one submission? In view of the fact that this is the last day and there are a large number of questions, will you be good enough to extend the question time? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have no objection, but will not the House be anxious to consider the report of the Mettur-Project Deputation ? "

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" About 15 minutes more, Sir. Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar who is in charge of the resolution says he has no objection to the extension of time."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Has the hon. the Leader of the House any objection to the question time being extended by 15 minutes ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" No, Sir, if it is found necessary."

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Agriculture

Co-operation of the Agricultural department with the Chingleput District Board.

* 801 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the observation, on page 35 of the Administration Report for 1927–28 by the Chingleput District Board, under the heading 'Co-ordination of activities' that the Agricultural department was indifferent and did not co-operate with the District Board in their work of rural reconstruction ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Agricultural department did not co-operate with the District Board in their rural reconstruction work ;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the District Board suffered on account of the indifference of the Agricultural department ;

(d) if answer to (b) be in the affirmative why the Agricultural department did not choose to co-operate with the District Board ;

(e) the matters in which the Chingleput District Board sought the co-operation of the Agricultural department, and how far the department complied with the request of the District Board ; and

(f) whether the advice and co-operation of the Agricultural department were sought for by the Chingleput District Board in the matter of the introduction of vocational classes in agriculture and an agricultural farm in the District Board High School, Poonamallee, and how far the Agricultural department co-operated with the District Board ?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) No ; the Agricultural department endeavoured to collaborate as far as their limited staff permitted but much could not be done because the President of the Board did not try to meet the views of the Agricultural department as to how co-operation between the department and the Board could be effected.

(c) The answer is in the negative.

(d) Does not arise

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(e) A copy of letter [a] dated 12th September 1928 from the Deputy Director of Agriculture, IV Circle, to the Director of Agriculture is appended for information.

(f) The President appears to have sought the advice of the Director of Agriculture regarding a syllabus which was drawn up for the teaching of nature study in secondary schools under the control of the Board. All the necessary advice and help were given.

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know from the hon. the Development Minister, in what respect the views of the President of the Board differed from those of the Agricultural department, with respect to answer (b)?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"Is it not a fact that the President complained that work has suffered owing to non-co-operation?"

The hon Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"That is what we see from the report."

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"Has the Government examined the schemes of rural reconstruction inaugurated by the Chingleput District Board?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"Not yet, Sir."

Proceedings of the Agricultural Conference.

*802 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government are in receipt of the proceedings of the Agricultural Conference held at Simla in October 1928; and if so, whether Government will be pleased to place a copy of the same on the table of the House; and

(b) whether Government have arrived at any decisions regarding the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture, and if so, what those decisions are?

A.—(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer to question No. 681.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"Will the Government be pleased to place on the table its proceedings?"

The hon. Mr. M R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"The hon. Member probably means the proceedings of the Agricultural Conference held at Simla. That has to be considered."

Co-operative Societies

Recommendations of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies on the report of the Townshend Committee.

*803 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received the recommendations of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies on the report of the Townshend Committee on Co-operation;

[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 522–525 infra.

(*b*) whether he will be pleased to place the same on the table of this House to allow the Council to express its views on the matter;

(*c*) whether he has arranged to call for a conference or meeting of representative non-official co-operators in the province with a view to consult them on the recommendations of the Registrar; and

(*d*) if he has already passed orders, whether the same will be placed on the table of this House?

A.—(*a*) Yes; the recommendations of the Registrar on certain of the proposals of the Committee have not yet been received.

(*b*) In view of answer to (*a*), this question does not now arise.

(*c*) The question of convening such a conference to discuss certain general questions is now engaging the attention of Government.

(*d*) No orders have yet been passed.

Liquidation of the Kaniyambadi Co-operative Society.

*804 Q.—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 1002 answered on 1st November 1927—

(*a*) whether the report called for from the Registrar of Co-operative Societies regarding the Kaniyambadi Co-operative Society, North Arcot district, has since been received;

(*b*) if so, what is the amount covered by "special loans" and how much of it is irrecoverable;

(*c*) what is the extent of "unsecured," "benami" and "fraudulent" loans in this society to recover which "unlimited liability" proceedings have to be resorted to in this society;

(*d*) what is the amount available as "net assets" of this society for realization under the application of unlimited liability;

(*e*) whether the Central (financing) Bank at Vellore was apprised of the bad state of affairs in the Kaniyambadi Co-operative Society and what were the steps taken by this Central Bank to recover the sums lent by them to this co-operative society;

(*f*) why the Kaniyambadi Society was not liquidated by the department when they became aware that its affairs were steadily going bad; and

(*g*) whether Government will be pleased to place the report from the Registrar on the table of this House?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) *to* (*f*) The Government have no information but have called for a report.

(*g*) No.

Publication of the audit reports of co-operative societies in the district gazette.

*805 Q.—Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the reason for discontinuing the publication of the audit reports of co-operative societies in the district gazette;

(*b*) the savings, if any, effected by such discontinuance; and

(*c*) whether it is intended to order the publication of the said audit reports as heretofore?

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A.—(a) The free publication of audit reports in the district gazettes was discontinued as a measure of economy.
(b) The Government have no information.
(c) No.

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to say whether any attempt was made to find out the extent of savings effected by such discontinuance ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" No, Sir."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" May I ask the Minister to look into the matter and give us some idea of the extent of savings ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

Supply of district gazettes to co-operative societies.

*806 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) why the free supply of district gazettes to such of the co-operative societies as applied for them has been stopped ; and

(b) whether the Government intend supplying them to the societies at half the rates of subscription ?

A.—(a) The free supply of gazettes was discontinued on financial grounds.
(b) No.

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister whether the Government considered this question as to whether these societies deserve this concession or not ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" It was duly considered."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" And then this was arrived at ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Yes."

Fisheries

Working of the Tanur Research station.

*807 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the objects with which the Tanur Research station was organized ;

(b) how far those objects have been achieved ;

(c) whether the Research assistant who was in charge of the station for the past some years has been transferred to a fish-curing yard ;

(d) whether the station is now in charge of a layman with no qualifications for research work ; and

(e) why a person with qualifications for research has not been appointed ?

A.—(a) The Tanur station was established for the purpose of ascertaining, by experiment, possible improvements in methods in the manufacture of cured fish, fish oil and guano.
(b) The station has accomplished much in determining the correct proportion of salt for curing, methods of sundrying and the

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relative values of various methods of cure including most of those adopted in England and America and these improvements are gradually being adopted by the curers. The station also successfully demonstrated that fish oil and fertiliser could be separated effectively and profitably with the aid of a simple and inexpensive plant. This gave rise to the establishment of many private oil and guano factories on the West Coast. In 1922–23 which was the last abundant year for sardines there were 647 factories on the West Coast whose output was about 32,000 tons of guano and 12,000 tons of oil valued at Rs. 36 lakhs. The station has still to carry out further investigations into the industrial possibilities of fish oil and its by-products, i.e., refinement of the oil, conversion of the scrap (residual fish) into a much more valuable product than guano, viz., fish meal, the manufacture of Turkey red oil and of medicinal oil from fish oil. The attention of the hon Member is in this connexion invited also to paragraph 4 of the Government review on the Administration Report of the Fisheries department for 192 –26.

(c) Yes.

(d) & (e) Yes, merely as a tentative measure and pending the receipt of the recommendations of the Fisheries Committee.

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—"May I know whether the assistant in charge of the Tanur Research station is doing now any kind of research work ?"

The hon. Mr M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"He is supposed to do."

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—"How can a man who has no qualification do any research work ?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"He has got some experience in research work."

Schools and co-operative societies conducted by the Fisheries department in Malabar and South Kanara.

*808 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of schools and co-operative societies started and conducted by the Fisheries department in Malabar and South Kanara (figures to be given separately);

(b) the number of societies that are in working order ; and

(c) whether any society has been started in South Kanara for the purchase and sale of fish or whether loans have been granted by the Government for societies in South Kanara for the purchase of boats and nets ?

A.—(a) The number of schools started and conducted by the Fisheries department is 27 in Malabar and 12 in South Kanara. Co-operative societies are not started by the Fisheries department in these districts. It is the Co-operative department which starts the Fishermen Co-operative Societies ; but the Fisheries department supervises the working of these societies. There are 43 such societies in Malabar and 21 South Kanara.

(b) Forty-one in Malabar and 21 in South Kanara.

(c) The answer is in the negative.

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Appointment of teachers in the Fisheries Training Institute.

*809 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of teachers belonging to different communities of various grades trained in the Fisheries Training Institute since it was started;

(b) whether preference is given to members of the Fishermen community in the selection of candidates;

(c) the number of schools in which members of the Fishermen community are headmasters;

(d) whether the headmasters who do not belong to the Fishermen community live amidst the fisherfolk; and

(e) whether the schools, as at present run, are manned mostly by teachers belonging to communities other than the fisherfolk?

A.—(a) 56 Fishermen Hindus,
19 Non-fishermen Hindus,
4 Muhammadans and
9 Christians.

(b) Yes.

(c) Sixteen out of a total of thirty-six schools

(d) Half the number live amidst the fisherfolk while the remaining half do not solely by reason of want of suitable accommodation.

(e) No; there are 69 fishermen teachers against 49 non-fishermen teachers.

Industries

Weavers' societies in the Presidency.

*810 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON: Will the hon the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) how many weavers' societies there are in the Presidency excluding credit societies;

(b) which is the largest society;

(c) how many members there are;

(d) what is the monthly transaction per weaver;

(e) whether there are any yarn banks started; if not, why not; and

(f) what organization there is for the disposal of the finished products?

A.—(a) 63.

(b) Madura Sourashtra Weavers' Society, Madura.

(c) 682.

(d) Rupees 24.

(e) & (f) There are no yarn banks; the question of organizing a Central Weavers' Society for the purchase of yarn and sale of finished products is under consideration.

Stocks of ink in the Government Ink Factory.

*811 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the stocks on hand of the various kinds of ink on 31st March 1928 in the Government Factory and the respective periods during which they were so in stock;

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(b) whether there is any deterioration in the quality of ink even when stored in close containers after a certain period and if so, when; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the deterioration of the quality and its commencement vary with the nature of the receptacle and the quantity contained in it and if so, what they are when ink is stored in bottles, jars, and barrels, respectively?

A.—(a) The stocks on hand of the various kinds of inks on 31st March 1928 were—

	Gals.
Blue black ink in bulk	1,273
Blue black ink bottled	287
Stamping ink	10

Three hundred and ninety-one gallons have been in stock since 1923–24; 202 gallons since 1926 and 680 gallons since 1927. The inks left over from the year 1926–27 are mostly record inks prepared with a view to supplying the requirements of the Superintendent of Stationery.

(b) Ink even when stored in closed containers deteriorates after a lapse of three years.

(c) Deterioration in the quality of an ink and the commencement of deterioration varies with the nature of the receptacle. For instance, ink stored in bulk will deteriorate sooner than ink kept in small receptacles such as jars, bottles, etc., because the staves are affected by climatic conditions whereas glass and stoneware are not so affected. In the case of bulk storage, there is not only deterioration to contend with but also wastage due to evaporation and leakage in the barrels.

Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi:—"May I know whether the ink that is necessary for Government purposes is taken from this Ink Factory?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"Some kind of ink is taken."

Working of the Government Minor Industries Laboratory.

*812 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) when the Government Minor Industries Laboratory was started and with what object;

(b) the officer or officers appointed to carry out the several objects and the duration of their employment;

(c) the work so far turned out by them and that remaining yet to be done;

(d) the measures taken to carry out expeditiously the work yet to be done; and

(e) whether in addition to the industries originally contemplated at the time of the establishment of the institute, the investigation of any other minor industries by the institute is under consideration and if so, what the programme is and the period expected to be taken for the completion of the programme or for showing appreciable results?

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A.—(*a*) The Industrial Laboratory was started at Coonoor on 18th September 1919 with the object of investigating certain minor industries and industrial problems of the Presidency.

(*b*) Sir Frederick Nicholson was in charge of the laboratory till April 1922 when Mr. S. Venkataraman, who had previously been appointed Chemical Assistant to Sir F. Nicholson, was placed in direct charge, and from October 1922 the laboratory was transferred to Madras with the name of the Government Industrial Institute. Mr. Venkataraman continues to be in charge.

(*c*) Fluid inks of a quality equal to that of imported inks have been manufactured at this institute. Ink powders and ink tablets have also been produced. The preliminary experiments on the manufacture of printers' inks undertaken at the institute have yielded promising results and consequently arrangements are in progress with a view to the manufacture of one or two varieties of printers' inks on a semi-commercial scale.

(*d*) The work of the institute is carried out as expeditiously as possible. An indent has been placed with the Stores Department, London, for the supply of certain machinery required in connexion with the manufacture of printers' inks and when this is received the work on the manufacture of printers' inks is expected to develop more rapidly.

(*e*) A programme of work to be undertaken at the institute during the next few years is under consideration. The industries that have been suggested for study are adhesives, lamp black, boot polishes, and creams, lacquers and sealing wax. It is not possible to say how long it will take to complete the programme of experimental work or obtain definite results.

Finished products in the Government Industrial Institute, Madura.

*813 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to furnish details of—

(*a*) the finished products on hand on 31st December 1927 or any other later date for which information is available, in the Government Industrial Institute, Madura; and

(*b*) the value of the articles out of them, which were on hand in the institute on 30th June 1927 and 31st December 1926, respectively?

A.—(*a*) The value of finished products on hand on 31st March 1928, the latest date for which information is available, was Rs. 4,771-1-1.

(*b*) Out of the above, stock valued at Rs. 1,604-6-3, was over three years old. The Government have no information as to how much of the stock that was on hand on 31st December 1926 and 30th June 1927 was on hand on 31st March 1928.

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Application from the Abbas Magnesite Company, Salem, for State aid.

*814 Q.—Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Messrs. Abbas Hussain and J. Kader Badsha of the Abbas Magnesite Company, Salem, applied for State aid under the Madras Act V of 1923 and, if so, what was the nature of the industry for which aid was asked and the nature of such aid;

(*b*) whether the Board of Industries enquired into the matter and made any recommendation to the Government and, if so, what was the nature of the recommendation and, if any loan is to be granted, the nature of the security;

(*c*) whether the Director of Industries has made any report on the matter to the Government and, if so, what is the substance of the report;

(*d*) whether the Government have passed final orders and, if so, when and to what effect and for what reasons;

(*e*) under what section and clause of the Act the application and the recommendation thereon, if any, have been made;

(*f*) in what area the new company is expected to work and how far that area is granite area in which the Magnesite Syndicate, Limited, of Suramangalam is working;

(*g*) whether the question of the competition between the two companies has been considered and whether any remedy has been suggested;

(*h*) whether the Magnesite Syndicate, Limited, have been working for a long period and, if so, for what period and what dividends have been paid by the same and whether there have been any complaints against that company; and

(*i*) whether any safeguards have been suggested for avoiding undue competition between the two companies and the possibility of the new company incurring a great loss?

A.—(*a*) (i) Yes.

(ii) For the purpose of developing the production of calcined magnesite, of collecting carbonic acid gas given off in the process and, at a later stage, of manufacture of certain magnesite products.

(iii) Guarantee of an overdraft to the extent of six lakhs of rupees.

(*b*) The Board by a majority recommended the guarantee subject to a further investigation as to the adequacy of the security. The security offered by the applicant is the landed property known as the Chettichavadi jaghir in the Salem taluk which is stated to contain deposits of magnesite.

(*c*) & (*d*) The Director's report is under consideration and so cannot be published.

(*e*) Under section 5 (1) (*a*) and (*b*) of the Act.

(*f*) The new company proposes to work in the Chettichavadi village in the Salem taluk. The Government have no information on the point raised in the latter part of the clause.

(*g*) & (*i*) As stated in answer to clauses (*c*) and (*d*) the application is still under consideration and the possibility of undue competition will be examined.

(*h*) The Government are not in possession of the details asked for.

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Report of the Director of Industries on grazing areas in Cuddapah district.

815 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to place on the table the report of the Director of Industries in regard to grazing areas for sheep and goats in Cuddapah district referred to in his answer to question No. 272, dated 8th September 1928?

A.—Question No. 272 answered on 8th September 1928 refers to grazing in the Bellary district not in the Cuddapah district.
The Director of Industries report [a] is placed on the table.

Excise

Number of toddy and arrack shops in Anantapur district.

816 Q.—Mr. C. Obi Reddi : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of toddy and arrack shops in the district of Anantapur, talukwar ;

(b) the number of villages in which both toddy and arrack shops co-exist ;

(c) what is the number of toddy and arrack shops in the district this year and what was their number in the three years just previous to this year ; and

(d) what is the excise revenue this year in each of the taluks in the district from toddy and arrack shops respectively ; and what was it in the three years just previous to the current year ?

A.—(a) to (d) The hon. Member is referred to Imperial Return No. III of the Excise Administration Reports for 1925-26, 1926-27 and 1927-28 (which have been published) in regard to the number of toddy and arrack shops in the Anantapur district during the last three years. The Government have not the information on the other points referred to in the questions and have called for a report.

Work done by excise advisory committees in Anantapur district.

817 Q.—Mr. C. Obi Reddi : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of local excise advisory committees in the district of Anantapur and the territorial jurisdiction of each ;

(b) the names of the members in each of the committees ;

(c) whether proposals for the opening of new shops (toddy and arrack) or for the removal of existing shops are to be placed before the said committees for their deliberation and opinion before new shops are opened and existing shops are removed ;

(d) whether the said local advisory committees were consulted by the Government before the new arrack or toddy shops, if any, were opened this year ; and

(e) whether during last year any shops were closed by the Government on the recommendation of the local advisory committees, and if so, how many ?

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 525 infra.

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A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have not the information. A report has been called for.

(*c*) & (*d*) The hon. Member is referred to the rules framed for the conduct of business by the Excise Advisory Committee—*vide* notification of the Commissioner of Excise No. 10, dated 25th August 1927, published at pages 1261-1263 of Part II of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 6th September 1927. The rules contemplate that the Committee should consider the matters referred to by the hon. Member, and the Government have no reason to think that the local officers did not observe these rules.

(*e*) The hon. Member is referred to statement B of the Excise Administration Report for 1927-28, which has been published. The Committee recommended the closure of four arrack shops and all the four were closed.

Mr. C. Obi Reddi :—"May I know whether local advisory committees have not been formed in all the four revenue divisions of the district of Anantapur?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—"Notice, Sir."

Location of the toddy shop near Dr. C. M. Pai's house at Nileshwar.

*818 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. Karant : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the toddy shop located near Dr. C. M. Pai's house at Nileshwar, South Kanara, is at a distance of only about 30 yards from his house and dispensary and that on account of constant brawls of drunken people therein who oftentimes even enter his compound, the peace and comforts of himself, his family and his patients are greatly disturbed;

(*b*) whether by a petition, dated 5th August 1927, he brought this to the notice of Mr. E. M. Gawne, the then Collector;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that he has likewise petitioned time and again to the local police and the tahsildar;

(*d*) what are the orders of the Collector on his petition;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that after local inspection Mr. Gawne ordered a fresh site to be chosen as soon as possible as it was then the middle of the year and the renter of the shop would not agree to shift at once;

(*f*) whether it is a fact that regardless of his complaints, the shop still continues in the same place, even though another less objectionable place was selected;

(*g*) whether it is a fact that the old site is being continued simply from the point of higher revenue; and

(*h*) what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) to (*h*) The Government have not the information and have called for a report.

Report on the large consumption of opium in the East Godavari district.

* 819 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the committee appointed to enquire into the causes of large consumption of opium in the East Godavari district has sent its report;

(b) if so, whether the same will be placed on the table of the House; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take any and if so, what action on the report?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes; when orders have been passed on the report.

(c) The Government are awaiting a further communication on the subject from the Government of India.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"May I know when the report of the committee was submitted to Government?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"Which committee?"

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"The committee that was appointed to enquire into the causes of large consumption of opium in the East Godavari district?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"That report is now under the consideration of Government. The matter is under correspondence with the Government of India."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Will it be placed on the table of the House?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"There is the answer in print that, when orders have been passed on the report, it will be placed."

Medical

Appointment of lady medical officers to the hospitals at Cuddalore and other places.

* 820 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there are no lady medical officers attached to the Government Headquarter Hospital at Cuddalore and to the Government hospitals at Tindivanam, Kallakurichi and Villupuram;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there are no lady medical officers attached to the Local Fund and Municipal medical institutions at Cuddalore Old Town, Nellikuppam, Panrutti, Mannargudi, Porto Novo, Gingee, Sankarapuram, Vriddhachalam and Tirukkoyilur and that no provision has been made for the gosha women and children in these centres where Muslim population is considerable; and

(c) whether the Government will take steps for the early appointment of lady medical officers to the several aforesaid hospitals under their control and to those under the control of the local and municipal bodies and see that necessary and suitable arrangements are made for affording facilities for medical attendance and treatment of gosha women and children in the centres aforementioned?

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A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. As regards the second part, the existing provision for medical relief in these stations is intended for the benefit of the men, women and children of all communities who wish to avail themselves of it.

(*c*) The question of employing a lady medical officer in the Government Headquarter Hospital, Cuddalore, is under consideration. As regards the other Government hospitals in the South Arcot district referred to in the question the employment of lady doctors is not considered immediately necessary. It is for the local bodies to take the initiative in the matter of the employment of lady doctors in medical institutions maintained by them.

Government contribution to the Cole Dispensary and the Missionary Medical School for Women at Vellore.

* 821 Q.—Dr. B. S. Mallayya : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount of contribution which the Government are annually making to the Missionary Medical School for Women and to the Cole Dispensary, Vellore ;

(*b*) whether there is a proposal to make a grant for raising the medical school to a college, and if so, what is the grant proposed ;

(*c*) whether the patients resorting to the Cole Dispensary are charged consultation fees, admission fees, etc., as in private institutions ; if so, what is the income of this dispensary from that source for the years 1924 to 1928 ; and

(*d*) if the answer to the first part of (*c*) is in the affirmative, what is the object of the Government in subsidizing the Cole Dispensary ?

A.—(*a*) The Government give an annual grant to the Medical School for Women, Vellore, calculated at the rate of Rs. 190 for each pupil from the Madras Presidency studying in the school during the year, subject to a maximum of Rs. 10,000.

No grant is paid to the Cole Dispensary, Vellore.

(*b*) A non-recurring grant of one-half of the actual expenditure, subject to a maximum of Rs. 5 lakhs has been sanctioned in connexion with the scheme for the establishment of a combined hospital and medical college for women. No proposal for a recurring grant is under consideration.

(*c*) The Government have no information.

(*d*) The question does not arise.

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" May I know from the hon. the Minister whether the students trained in this Medical School for women are from the Indian States, a majority of them ; and not from this Presidency ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" There are some students from Indian States, but not a majority of them "

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" Is it the duty of Government to pay for the pupils coming from Indian States ? "

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The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"In all the educational and medical institutions of the Madras Province, students of Indian States are also educated."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" At the expense of the Government ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"All the Government institutions are maintained at the cost of Government and the fees paid by students are comparatively little."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Will the Government be pleased to make a contribution in the shape of scholarships to students coming from the mufassal to the Lady Willingdon Medical School ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member will have to put a separate question."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*b*), may I know at what stage the scheme for the establishment of a combined hospital and medical college for women stands at present ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" It has not yet been established, but the buildings are being constructed."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Are the Government aware that the college at Vizagapatam can take more than double the present number and also that the college is not recognized by the General Medical Council ? What right have the Government to put money on an American concern which will not be recognized by the Medical Council ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I am not sure the institution will not be recognized by the Medical Council. In the case of private institutions, if they contribute half, we give them the other portion in order to give them facilities."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know from the hon. the Minister, how much of the five lakhs has actually been paid ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*c*), may I know if Government would call for information whether the patients going to the Cole Dispensary are charged any fees ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" As it is a private institution we have no business to make an enquiry. As it belongs to a mission, we are not entitled to go into the details of the working of the institution."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Clause (*d*) of the question is " If the answer to the first part of (*c*) is in the affirmative, what is the object of Government in subsidizing the Cole Dispensary ". The answer given is " The question does not arise." May I now ask, in view of the supplementary answer, whether it is not the duty of Government to enquire into the fees collected by this institution ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I am afraid, the hon. Member has not read the answer to clause (*a*) where it is stated that no grant is paid to the Cole Dispensary."

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Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Is the hon. Minister aware that this Cole Dispensary is itself a medical school for women and that the patients going there are charged not only for consultation, but for everything? It is more or less a nursing institute and it is this mission that the Government is going to subsidize. Is it the policy of Government to subsidize these private nursing institutes? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Nursing is also done there and if the hon. Member assumes certain things in putting questions, I am afraid, I cannot answer."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" In answer to clause (b), it is stated that five lakhs has been sanctioned for the establishment of a combined hospital and medical college for women. Did the Government examine the income of the concern before they decided to make a grant? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The college is not yet established and it can have no income before it is established."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know from the hon. Minister if the Cole Dispensary has anything to do with the establishment of a combined hospital and medical college? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Probably the patients in the Cole Dispensary may be supplied the necessary clinical material."

Mr G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" So, may I know whether the estimated income from the 'hospital' which occurs in the words 'combined hospital and medical college for women' will be utilized for its maintenance? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Whether the hospital which is going to be established will produce income or not, I am not in a position to say. The grant now made is not for the maintenance of the institution, but for the building of the hospital."

Appointment of assistant surgeons.

* 822 Q.—Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what was the number of applicants for the Assistant Surgeon's post;

(b) how many of them were Brahmans, non-Brahmans and Muslims;

(c) the number of assistant surgeons selected this year and how many of them are Brahmans and Muhammadans;

(d) whether, in view of the very poor representations and the assurance given by the hon. the Minister on previous occasions, the Government will consider the claims of the existing graduates of the Muhammadan community for immediate appointments as assistant surgeons; and

(e) the number of house surgeons with and without allowance recruited this year and the number of Muhammadans and Brahmans in each case?

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A.—(a) Thirty-six candidates appeared for the competitive examination held this year for the selection of assistant surgeons.

(b)

Brahmans	23
Non-Brahman Hindus	7
Indian Christians	6
Muhammadans	Nil.
Total ...	36

(c)

Brahmans	11
Non-Brahman Hindus	6
Indian Christians	1
Muhammadans	Nil.
Total ...	18

(d) As far as the Government are aware there is only one Muhammadan medical graduate available. He has recently been given a paid house surgeoncy in the General Hospital, Madras. The question of his appointment as an assistant surgeon can, under existing rules, be considered only after the next competitive examination has been held.

(e) The Board selected 44 candidates on the whole for the panel of house surgeons, house physicians and demonstrators. Only one Muhammadan appeared before the Board. Of the forty-four selected, one (a Brahman) did not join and another (a non-Brahman) resigned. The remaining 42 candidates were distributed as follows :—

Name of community.	Number appointed as paid house surgeons.	Number appointed as unpaid house surgeons.	Number appointed as demonstrators.	Total.
Brahmans	5	16	6	27
Non-Brahman Hindus ..	3	4	3	10
Indian Christians ..	1	2	1	4
Muhammadans	1	..	..	1
Total ..	10	22	10	42

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—"May I ask the hon. Minister what he means by the answer ? Clause (a) of the question wants to know what was the number of applicants for the Assistant Surgeon's post. The answer given is thirty-six candidates appeared for the competitive examination. I want to know whether the number of applicants were 36 or the candidates selected by Government were 36 ?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—"I am afraid, Mr. President, I will have to give a rather lengthy answer to this question. According to the orders of Government, any person who wishes to be employed in Government service as Assistant Surgeon has to undergo a period of training as house surgeon or physician in any recognized hospital in Madras or any of the Government institutions. After that he has

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to pass an examination which will be prescribed. Thirty-six such candidates appeared for the examination and from among that 36, persons who are to be selected for appointment have to be chosen."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN:—"May I know from the hon. Minister whether there was not one Muslim candidate for selection?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"There was no Muslim at all among the 36 candidates selected last year. Among the candidates for selection this year, a Muslim candidate appeared for selection as house surgeon and he has been selected."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN:—"May I know whether in the case of two other members of different communities, examination was not held with regard to house surgeons?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"As regards the two candidates about whom the hon. Member said they were exempted, they were not exempted from examination. They had to undergo the examination, but they were exempted from being house surgeons during 1927–28, since they had served before."

11-15 a.m. Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR:—"With reference to answer to clause (c), may I know the total number of applicants?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"Forty-six."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—"With reference to answer (c), may I know whether the appointments were made strictly following the results of the competetive examination, or whether other matters were taken into consideration?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"Half the number was appointed according to the results of the examination and the other half was appointed taking into consideration the claims of the various communities."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—"If that was the case, may I know why only one Indian Christian out of six, six out of seven non-Brahmans and eleven out of twenty-three Brahmans were appointed?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"In making these appointments we had to pay attention to the communities to which the various applicants belonged, the districts from where they came and the result of the examination. The combined result of all this is this."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN:—"If that was the case, may I know why, when there was only one Muslim candidate available, he was not nominated out of the five?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"My friend will refer to the first part of the answer. I am afraid he did not follow the answers already given. According to the present arrangement those that have been now appointed have served the period of house surgeoncy and they were those selected in the examination held early in 1928. For 1928–29 only one Muhammadan has been selected and he has recently been given a paid house surgeoncy in the General Hospital and his chance for appointment will come only in 1929."

Mr ABDUL HAMID KHAN:—"When was the examination held?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"In April or May last."

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Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" When was the appointment made ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" In July or August."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" When was this particular Muhammadan given the paid house.surgeoncy ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" In April or May, and from that date the period is counted."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I am rather puzzled by the answers given by the hon. the Minister . . . ?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will not be allowed to preface his questions with such remarks."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Is the test for selection merit or communal basis ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" If the hon. Member had followed the answers already given he would not have put this question. I said that it consists partly of merit, partly from which district they come and to which community they belong."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA .—" Is the hon. the Minister aware that there is deterioration in the present staff due to their method of selection ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" No. Government do not admit it. There is no such deterioration."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to clause (c), may I know what are the principles which governed them when they appointed six non-Brahman Hindus, one Indian Christian and nil Muhammadan; whether it is on the principle of community or district from which they come or that of examination ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" All put together. (Laughter)."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" In what proportion ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Half as a result of the competitive examination and half on the other basis."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know how many Brahmans, non-Brahman Hindus, Indian Christians and Muhammadans were selected on the basis of examination and how many on that of community and district ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Notice."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" If this be the proportion contemplated, may I know what they have done to safeguard the claims of the Oriyas ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know whether among the selected there is any Oriya. I do not think that is a community by itself. Only when it is recognized as a community will that be taken notice of."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I know whether Government received a representation that the Oriyas have not got the benefit of being classified under any community, i.e., that they are getting nothing as they come under neither Brahmans, non-Brahmans or any other community and that they do not fall under any of the categories."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Notice."

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Appointment of a sub-assistant surgeon for the Vinjamoor dispensary.

*823 Q.—Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in Vinjamoor dispensary (Nellore district) there is no sub-assistant surgeon for the last six months; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to ask the local boards concerned to rectify matters?

A.—(a) & (b) There has been no sub-assistant surgeon at Vinjamur since the middle of July, but it is hoped to fill up the vacant post very shortly.

Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi:—"May I know whether Government have ascertained the reasons why the post was not filled for the last four and a half months?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar:—"That is a local board dispensary."

Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi:—"Whatever that may be, did the Government make any inquiry?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar:—"They have made an inquiry."

Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi:—"Have they ascertained the reasons?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar:—"We are told that a man could not be got."

Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi:—"Was there any advertisement?"

Public Health

Water-supply schemes in Kurnool district.

*824 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state, in view of replies given to question No. 186 on 6th September 1928, for each taluk board area in the Kurnool district—

(a) the estimated cost of the water-supply schemes for the years 1927–28 and 1928–29;

(b) the amount of Government grant sanctioned;

(c) the amount contributed by the local boards—taluk or district;

(d) the total amount thus available;

(e) the deficit, if any, to make up the estimated cost of the year's programme; and

(f) the measures taken to make up such deficit?

A.—(a) to (e) A statement[a] is laid on the table.

(f) The Government have not undertaken to meet half the cost of all the works included in the programme for each year, much less to make up the entire difference between the full cost of projected schemes and the contributions of local boards thereto.

[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 526 infra.

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Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" In view of the fact that nearly half the money is to be made up, may I know whether it is the intention of the Government not to carry out this programme within the next five years, or whether they have made any suggestions to the local board, or whether the matter is under correspondence and if so will the hon. the Minister be pleased to place that on the table of the House ? "

The hon. the President :—" It is an excessively long question and so it is not admissible."

Registration

Acting clerks in the Registration department in West Godavari district.

*825-A Q.—Mr. D. Narayana Raju : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) how many acting clerks there are in the Registration department, West Godavari district, and to what communities they belong ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the only Brahman acting clerk in the Registration department, West Godavari district, was ousted on communal grounds ; and

(c) whether it is a fact that he had to his credit long acting service and good work and conduct ?

A.—Information has been called for.

Additional establishment for sub-registry offices in West Godavari.

*825-B Q.—Mr. D. Narayana Raju : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government are contemplating the establishment of any additional sub-registrar's offices in West Godavari district ; and

(b) if so, where they are proposed to be located ?

A.—(a) & (b) No.

Corporation of Madras

Timber tax collected by the Corporation of Madras during 1921—1927.

*826 Q.—Dr. B. S. Mallayya : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what is the amount collected as timber tax by the Corporation of Madras during each of the years 1921 to 1927 ;

(b) what is the amount of rebate given on timber alleged to have been exported from the city of Madras during each of the years 1921 to 1927 ;

(c) whether there was any irregularity in the payment of this rebate, or defalcation in the timber accounts of the Corporation ; and

(d) what action the Government propose to prevent a repetition of those irregularities ?

A.—(a) & (b) A statement [a] is annexed.

(c) The hon. Member is referred to the report of the Timber Defalcations Enquiry Committee appointed by the Madras Corporation in 1925 for an answer to this question ;

[a] Printed as Appendix IV on page 527 infra.

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(*d*) the amendment of section 129 (1) of the City Municipal Act 1919, to put a stop to the system of refunds of timber tax is under consideration.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" From the answer to (*a*) and (*b*), may I know whether the Government have satisfied themselves that these irregularities entail a loss of Rs. 12,000 to Rs. 53,000 ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Government have been aware of these irregularities and we have said that these must be put a stop to."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know what action the Government have taken on the report of the defalcation ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The Corporation has taken action."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Do not the Government think that any action on their part is necessary ? Is it not the duty of Government to see that justice is done at least for the sake of the interests of the rate-payers ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Government do not think any useful purpose will be served by doing so."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Is it beyond the power of the Government to bring the culprits to book ? '

Education

Pay of drawing masters in Government educational institutions.

*827 Q.—Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what is the scale of pay of the drawing masters in Government educational institutions ;

(*b*) whether the Government will consider the advisability of placing them at least on the scale of the second-grade teachers ; and

(*c*) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the suggestions of the 19th Provincial Educational Conference held at Vellore in 1927 urging the immediate introduction of standardized salaries as given there and recommending that the adoption of standardized scales be made a condition of recognition and aid ?

A.—(*a*) The scale of pay for drawing masters is Rs. 35—35—1½—50—1—60 when employed in training colleges and Rs. 25—1—50 when employed in other institutions.

(*b*) The scales of pay were revised in 1923. The Government do not propose to undertake a further revision at present.

(*c*) Yes.

Pay of teachers transferred from boys' to girls' schools under Kavali Taluk Board.

*828 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that in all Provincial girls' schools in the Kavali Taluk Board area male teachers who are transferred from boys' schools are paid the same pay that they were receiving as teachers of boys' schools and not the scale of pay existing in the girls' schools ;

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(b) whether it is also a fact that teachers in the newly opened girls schools in the same taluk board area are paid at the rate of Rs. 20 per mensem whereas those in the old schools are paid at the rate of Rs. 12 and Rs. 13 per male and female teacher respectively per month; and

(c) if the answers to (a) and (b) are in the affirmative, what action the Government have taken or propose to take thereon?

A.—(a) It is not clear what the hon. Member means by the expression "Provincial girls' schools." If he refers to Government schools the hon. Member is informed that there are no such schools in the area of the taluk board.

(b) In the case of new girls' schools opened with the aid of Provincial funds, the taluk board is receiving a subsidy of Rs. 20 per mensem towards the pay of a teacher and it is expected to employ qualified women teachers in those schools and pay a salary of not less than Rs. 20. The Government have no information as to the rate of pay the teachers in these and other schools are actually receiving.

(c) Under section 67 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, the taluk board is competent to fix the salaries of its employees including teachers in elementary schools.

Admissions to the Upper Subordinate class and Engineer class of the Engineering College, Guindy.

*829 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of students who applied for admission to the Engineer class and the Upper Subordinate class of the Engineering College, Guindy, in each of the years 1924 to 1927 respectively in the tabular form given in Appendix A to G.O. No. 1573, Law (Education), dated 26th July 1928;

(b) the number of students who (i) applied for admission and (ii) were admitted to the Engineer and Upper Subordinate classes respectively in 1928;

(c) the minimum qualifications prescribed for admission to the Engineer and Upper Subordinate classes, the lowest qualification of those admitted to them in 1928; and

(d) the number of Brahman and non-Brahman students who failed to secure admission, though they possessed qualifications higher than those of the students admitted with the lowest?

A.—(a) No applications are entertained for admission to the Upper Subordinate class; but promotions to that class are made from Probationary Subordinate class second year division under rule 28 of the College Rules published under G.O. No. 1604, Law (Education), dated 12th November 1923, placed on Editors' table.

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The following table gives the information regarding the Engineer class :—

Years.	Number of students who applied for admission into the Engineer class.								
					Hindus.				
	Europeans and Anglo-Indians.	Indian Christians.	Muhammadans.	Parsis.	Brahmans.	Non-Brahmans.	Adi-Dravidas.	Others.	Total.
1924–25 ..	4	7	10	..	46	13	..	..	80
1925–26 ..	2	15	6	..	47	21	2	..	93
1926–27 ..	1	23	3	1	96	31	..	..	155
1927–28 ..	3	14	11	..	168	54	..	..	250

(*b*) The number of students who applied for admission into the Engineer class was 309 of whom 61 were admitted. As regards the Upper Subordinate class, the question does not arise in view of the answer to clause (*a*).

(*c*) The minimum qualification for admission to the Engineer class is a pass in the Intermediate examination of the Madras University with group I as the optional subject or an examination accepted by the Director of Public Instruction as equivalent thereto.

The lowest qualification of the candidates who were admitted into the Engineer class in 1928 was a pass in the Intermediate examination. As regards upper subordinate classes, the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers to clauses (*a*) and (*b*).

(*d*) The numbers are 40 Brahmans and 4 non-Brahmans. All the 4 non-Brahmans were overaged. Of the 40 Brahmans, 16 were overaged. The remaining 24 could not be selected in view of provision having to be made for candidates from less advanced communities who possessed the qualifications prescribed.

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I know whether there is any idea of communal representation in the admission of students to the colleges ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Selection Committees have been appointed for the various colleges and their work is to see that all communities are properly represented provided their qualifications are equal."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I know whether all the members are engineers ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Government do not think that all the members of the selection committee should be engineers."

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Appointment of Professors in the Engineering College, Guindy.

*830 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government called for applications for Professorships in the Engineering College, Guindy; and, if so, for what posts;

(b) how many Indians applied for each of the said posts; and

(c) whether any of the said posts have since been filled up; and, if so, whether any Indian has been appointed?

A.—(a) Applications were called for in respect of the following posts:—

(1) Professor of Civil Engineering,
(2) Professor of Mechanical Engineering, and
(3) Professor of Electrical Engineering.

(b) 26, 14 and 15 respectively.

(c) Final orders have not yet issued.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"May I know when applications were called for?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Applications were called for four or five months back."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"May I know why there is so much delay in making the appointments?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Because Government have to consider the qualifications of the applicants."

Subjects taught in the manual training classes in the Training College, Rajahmundry.

*831 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the subjects that are taught in the manual training classes in the Training College, Rajahmundry; and

(b) whether the Government will consider the advisability of teaching soap manufacture there as one of the subjects?

A.—(a) Wood-work, mechanical drawing and aluminium work.

(b) The Government do not consider that soap manufacture is suitable for introduction as a form of manual training in schools.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Are any other industries taught?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"No, Sir."

Organization of a cadre of specialists for the staffing of the Government Training College, Rajahmundry.

*832 Q.—Mr G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to my question No. 375 answered on 8th October 1928, regarding the organization of a cadre of specialists for the staffing of the Government Training College, Rajahmundry—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the Syndicate of the Andhra University has granted affiliation to the Government Training College, Rajahmundry, on certain conditions one of which is that the

Director of Public Instruction should organize a cadre of specialists for the staffing of the college at a very early date; and

(b) if so, whether they will call for information from the Director of Public Instruction as to what his proposals are?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The present staff is competent and there is no necessity to organize a cadre of specialists.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know whether this decision of the Government has been communicated to the Syndicate of the Andhra University and, if so, when?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Notice."

Proposed amendment of the rules under the Elementary Education Act.

*833 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) why the Government propose to make an additional rule that no library books shall be purchased for the school unless they have been approved by the District Educational Officer or the Inspectress of Girls' Schools concerned; and

(b) on whose advice do the Government propose to make such a rule?

A.—(a) The Government consider that they should have some control over the reading matter supplied to elementary schools receiving aid from public revenues, and that the inspecting officers are in the best position to advise local bodies and other managements of elementary schools as to what books will be most useful in those schools and how best the limited funds available can be utilized.

(b) On the advice of the Director of Public Instruction.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know whether the Government consider the presidents of the local boards incompetent to recommend books for use in the libraries of elementary schools?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is not a question of competency; we think that the District Educational Officer will be the better authority."

Distribution of boarding grants for Indian orphanages.

*834-A Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state, with reference to the answer given to clause (b) of question No. 1111 answered on 4th November 1927 regarding the distribution of the boarding grants for Indian orphanages whether the information referred to therein has been received and if so, what it is?

A.—Of the 5,072 children for whom boarding grants were given in 1926–27, 225 were Hindus, 188 Muhammadans and 4,659 Indian Christians.

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Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether Government will consider the advisability of the distribution of boarding grants among the Hindu orphans on the advice of the heads of the institutions since no Hindu orphanage exists ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" No, Sir, these grants are for orphanages."

Cost of housing and boarding for Indian orphans.

834-B Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to the answer given to question No. 427 answered on 9th October 1928, will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what the average estimated approximate expenditure for housing and boarding Indian orphans in the several institutions mentioned in the answer is ; and

(b) what proportion of it Government have decided to pay in the coming year ?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) The Government grant does not represent any definite proportion of the boarding charges incurred by the orphanage. In accordance with the usual procedure, the total allotment will be distributed *pro rata* among the eligible children.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Is it a fact that no inquiry was made as to the capacity of the different institutions to look after the orphanages, and that money is given in a haphazard fashion"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am afraid the hon. Member is asking for an opinion."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I want to know on what principle money is distributed among the orphanages ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I have examined the question and found that the money given is not sufficient."

Local Boards

Introduction of the Bill to amend the Local Boards Act.

835 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Local Boards Act Amending Bill was circulated to all the district and taluk boards in the Presidency ;

(b) how many of these local bodies favoured the introduction of the proposed measure and how many expressed their disapproval of the same ; and

(c) whether he has decided to introduce the Bill, and, if so, when ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The replies so far received show that eight taluk boards are in favour of the Bill and twelve district boards and fifty-one taluk boards against it. The remaining district and taluk boards have not offered their remarks on the Bill as a whole.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clause (e) of question No. 719.

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Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether in the proposed amending Bill, the hon. Minister will include a provision abolishing the nomination of the presidentship of the district and taluk boards ?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" Notice."

Resolutions passed by the Salem District Board regarding the work of Mr. M. K. Duraiswami Ayyar.

*836 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether certain resolutions were passed by the Salem District Board, regarding the work of M.R.Ry. M. K. Duraiswami Ayyar Avargal, District Board Engineer, Salem, and communicated to Government;

(b) whether Government will be pleased to place on the table of the House a copy of the said resolutions ;

(c) what action has been taken by the Government on the resolutions ; and

(d) whether it is a fact that similar resolutions had been passed by the South Kanara District Board also, censuring this officer, while he was District Board Engineer in that district ?

A.—(a) Yes

(b) No.

(c) They are under consideration.

(d) The Government have no information.

11-30 a.m. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar :—" May I know when the resolution of the district board was communicatad to the Government ?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" About a fortnight ago."

Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar :—" By what date are orders expected to be passed, Sir ?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" I cannot give definite information as to when the orders will be passed."

Strengthening the piers of the Cauvery bridge at Komarapalayam in Salem district.

*837 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Rs. 53,000 was sanctioned in G.O. No. 1693, L. & M., dated 10th May 1927, for the work of strengthening the piers of the Cauvery bridge at Komarapalayam in Salem district ;

(b) whether it is a fact that only a sum of Rs. 6,100 has been spent on the work up to date ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the District Board Engineer executed most of that work departmentally, even though the work was given on contract ;

(d) is the policy of the district board not to do the work by departmental agency ;

(e) if so, what are the reasons of the District Board Engineer to execute the work departmentally ;

(f) whether any loss was sustained by such departmental work ;

(*g*) whether the Salem District Board passed a resolution condemning the action of the District Board Engineer in this respect; and

(*h*) if so, whether any action has been taken by the Government against the District Board Engineer in the matter?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) This is the expenditure up to end of March 1928.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) & (*e*) The Government have no information.

(*f*) The loss was apparently due to floods.

(*g*) Yes.

(*h*) No.

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"With reference to the answer to clause (*c*), may I know, Sir, when the work was given on contract, and what made the District Board Engineer to execute the work departmentally?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Because, he felt that the contractors were not competent enough to discharge that work."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"Once a contract has been entered into, will not the Board be liable for damages for breach of contract?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That is asking for an opinion."

Nomination of Mr. W. P. A. Soundara Pandya Nadar as Member and President of the Ramnad District Board.

838. *Q.*—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state with reference to the nomination by the Government of Mr. W. P. A. Soundara Pandya Nadar, M.L.C., as Member and President of the Ramnad District Board—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that after the demise of the Raja of Ramnad, the District Board of Ramnad expressed to the Government their desire to be given the privilege of election;

(*b*) if so, why the Government decided again in favour of nomination;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that Mr. Soundara Pandya Nadar is a resident of the Madura district, and that he is the whip of the Ministerialist party;

(*d*) whether the Government made any attempt to secure a competent candidate for the presidentship from among the Mussalmans, Christians or Adi-Dravidas residing in the Ramnad district;

(*e*) whether it is the principle of the Government to treat every sub-caste among the non-Brahmans as a minority community for purposes of patronage; and

(*f*) whether Mr. Soundara Pandya Nadar has had previous experience in the administration of local boards?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) To give minority communities a share in the presidentships of district boards.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Yes.

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(*e*) No.
(*f*) Yes. He was a member of the Nilakkottai Taluk Board in the Madura district.

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether there were no Nadars within the Ramnad district qualified for nomination to the presidentship of the district board ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" A deputation composed of Ramnad district Nadars themselves wanted Mr. Soundara Pandya Nadar to be the president."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know, Sir, the reasons apart from giving representation to minority communities if there are any, why the recommendation of the District Board of Ramnad asking for the right of electing its own president was turned down by the Government ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Because the Government felt it was better to raise an oppressed community."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether during the three long terms of the late Raja of Ramnad the District Board applied for its presidentship being thrown open for election ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I believe there was a resolution even at that time." (Hear, hear.)

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Was there a Nadars Conference over which the hon. the Minister presided and was given addresses and garlands, etc., before this appointment was made ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am not able to hold that it is connected with this question."

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, if the hon. the Chief Minister is aware of a recent public meeting of Nadars in Virudhunagar, in which a resolution was unanimously passed protesting against the remarks of a certain speaker in a previous public meeting characterising the Nadars as belonging to an oppressed community ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am not aware of any such meeting."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" In view of the answer of my hon. Friend that it was for the purpose of giving a member of this oppressed community a chance of becoming president of a district board, may I know what are the minority communities for giving a share to whom in the presidentship of district boards this Government decided to nominate to the presidentship of the Ramnad District Board ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" As I have said in answer to (*e*), the Government possess no such list."

Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED SAHIB :—" I want to know on what basis the majority and minority communities in this province are being treated or classified as such. I want to know whether Government have made any deviation from the ordinary classification of minorities and majorities on the basis of their religion, their backwardness in the matter of educational and other progress ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" As I have said, the Government have no list."

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Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" In view of the answer given by the hon. the Minister, may I know whether, in order to make room for oppressed classes, elections will be postponed for district board presidentships until all the oppressed classes have had their share of nomination ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" My hon. Friend is wrong in his assumption."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know what are the minority communities referred to in clause (b) ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" By minority communities I mean the depressed and oppressed communities."

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether there is a resolution of this House restricting nominations to Mussalmans, Christians and Adi-Dravidas only ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The resolution does not say Adi-Dravidas, but only other depressed communities, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know whether the claims of the hon. Member Mr. D. K. Syed Ibrahim Sahib, who crossed the floor recently and who is a Moslem were considered ? If not, why not ?"

Mr. M. V. GANGADHARA SIVA :—" May I know whether ever since this reform was introduced, a depressed class man or minority community man has been nominated to district board presidentship ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" No."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I know whether the Government did not take into consideration the population basis on which alone the Government should have thought of either nomination or election ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" As a matter of fact, the Nadar population is almost in a majority in that district."

Representation of the Vannia community on the South Arcot District Board.

*839 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the names and number of the members of the Vannia community elected to the South Arcot District Board by the several taluk boards in 1928 ;

(b) the total strength of the members of that community in the District Board ;

(c) what the numerical strength of this community on the District Board was when they nominated Mr. P. K. Ramachandra Padayachi, M.L.C., in October 1928 ; and

(d) what were the special reasons for nominating the said Mr. Ramachandra Padayachi, M.L.C. ?

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A.—(a)

Number and names of members of the Vannia community.	Name of taluk board by which the members were elected to the district board in 1928.
(1) M.R.Ry. S. Kuppuswami Goundar Avargal.	Tindivanam Taluk Board.
(2) „ R. S. Perianna Goundar Avargal.	
(3) „ V. Gopala Goundar Avargal.	
(4) „ A. V. Kandaswami Padayachi Avargal.	Tirukkoyilur Taluk Board.
(5) „ T. Govindaswami Padayachi Avargal.	Chidambaram Taluk Board.
(6) „ D. Rajarathina Padayachi Avargal.	Vriddhachalam Taluk Board.
(7) „ A. Jâyaramamoorthi Padayachi Avargal.	Cuddalore Taluk Board.

(b) Eight.

(c) Seven.

(d) M.R.Ry. P. K. Ramachandra Padayachi Avargal has a considerable stake in the district and it was considered that his appointment would be of benefit to the board.

Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar :—" Are there any persons not belonging to the Vannia community having a considerable stake in the district similar to if not greater than that possessed by the gentleman that is nominated? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" As I have said, it is not a question of stake only. We thought he would be a desirable member on the board. He was recommended by the President of the District Board."

Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar :—" Had the hon. the Minister any information at the time that this gentleman was already a member of the taluk board? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" No, Sir. This gentleman was recommended by the President, District Board."

Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar :—" Had the hon. the Minister any information that this gentleman was not likely to get into the board by election? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" My hon. Friend evidently has more information than I possess."

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—" May I know why a Mussalman was not nominated in the place, as this is a Moslem vacancy? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" There is no such thing as a Moslem vacancy."

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—" May I know how many Moslems there are on the district board at present? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" Notice."

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Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Was the hon. the Minister aware at the time of nominating this gentleman, that the gentleman named last in clause (a) of the answer, viz., Mr. Jayaramamurti Padayachi, is the brother-in-law of his nominee, his wife's brother ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" As I said, the hon. Member possesses more information than I have."

Representation of Adi-Dravidas and Christians in taluk boards in Nellore district.

* 840 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 148 answered on 5th September 1928, regarding the representation of Adi-Dravidas and Christians in the taluk boards in Nellore district, whether the information called for has been received by the Government ; and, if not, why not ?

A.—Yes. On the 30th June 1928, there were four Adi-Andhras on four taluk boards and one Christian also on one of them. The President, District Board, reports that an Adi-Andhra has since been appointed to two more taluk boards.

Alleged non-payment of compensation allowance to teachers under Kavali Taluk Board.

* 841 Q.—Mr B RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that funds for the payment of a 'compensatory allowance' of Rs. 2 per month per trained teacher, are given to the Kavali Taluk Board every year ;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any representations that the teachers have not been paid that allowance from 1922–23 ; and

(c) if so, what action the Government have taken or propose to take thereon ?

A.—(a) The Taluk Board, Kavali, is receiving a subsidy of Rs. 5,160 every year from Provincial funds representing one-half of the expenditure on the payment of an allowance of Rs. 4 per mensem to teachers in its elementary schools, subject to the condition that the board pays the allowance meeting the other half of the expenditure from its funds.

(b) & (c) No.

Division of electoral areas of the taluk boards in Kistna district into polling areas.

* 842 Q.—The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the basis on which the division of electoral areas into polling circles of the various taluk boards of Kistna District Board is being made ; whether the division will be the same as that for the Legislative Council elections ;

(b) the reason for the decrease in the number of voters in the electoral lists of the Nuzvid Taluk Board, Kistna district ; and

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(c) whether the opinions of the ex-presidents of each taluk board will be taken into consideration in forming the above divisions and, if so, to what extent?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) Information has been called for.

Improvements to the causeway across the Pennar.

*843 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the causeway across the Pennar at Chennur in the Cuddapah district is in a very bad condition;

(b) whether at the Chennur end it is so low that every time when freshes are received deposits of silt form over it for a long distance and make it absolutely unfit for use almost all the time;

(c) whether the middle portion of the causeway is always full of very deep inundated ruts;

(d) whether the Government will consider the question of building a bridge across the Pennar at this spot; and

(e) if the answer to (d) should be in the negative, whether they will take immediate steps to raise the Chennur end of the causeway as also to use better methods and material for constructing the damaged portion in the middle?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) A copy of the President's report [a], dated 18th November 1928, is placed on the table.

(d) & (e) The question of improving the causeway in accordance with the suggestions of the Superintending Engineer is under the consideration of the district board. The question of constructing a bridge at the place is for the district board to consider in the first instance.

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao:—"May I know from the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government what the suggestions of the Superintending Engineer are in regard to this matter?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan:—"I am afraid I cannot give this information at present because I do not possess it."

Contributions by local bodies to institutions as the university.

*844 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government have permitted any local body or local bodies to contribute money to any separate institutions such as a university?

A.—The question, it is understood, refers to contributions by local bodies to the Andhra University. The attention of Government has recently been drawn to a printed circular purporting to have been issued by the President, District Board, Guntur, the Chairmen of the Guntur and Bezwada Municipal Councils and others promising donations aggregating Rs. 15 lakhs to the Andhra University conditionally upon Bezwada being declared

[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 527 infra.

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the University headquarters. The sanction of Government has only been given so far to the following contributions apart from some small contributions towards extension lectures organized by the University :—

	RS.
Guntur District Board	1 lakh,
Old Kistna District Board	3 lakhs,

while the actual payments hitherto made by each of these bodies are Rs. 40,000 and Rs. 50,000 respectively.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"May I know whether the hon. the Minister would allow local bodies to make contributions to the universities ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I already said to the local bodies concerned who applied for this permission that unless they are in a position to say that they are rendering the necessary services that they have to under the Act for the benefit of the locality, the Government consider that it would not be possible for them to give sanction for such large amounts being given as donations to the university."

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Number of temples in Kurnool district for which schemes have been framed by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

*845 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to get the information and state—

(a) the number of temples in the district of Kurnool for which schemes have been framed by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board during the period 30th June 1927 to 30th June 1928 with the names of those temples ; and

(b) the number of temples which have been declared excepted temples in the Kurnool district during that period with the names of those temples ?

A.—(a) One—Sri Ranganathaswami temple at Peravali, Pattikonda taluk.

(b) Two—Sri Kanyakaparameswari temple, Biyyam bazaar, Kurnool town, and Sri Kanyakaparameswari temple, Minchin bazaar, Kurnool town.

Alleged demand for contribution from Medam Venkayya Garu, Kurnool, for the Sri Kanyakaparameswari temple in Minchin bazaar.

*846 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindu Religious Endowments Board has demanded contribution under section 3 of Act II of 1927 from Medam Venkayya Garu of Kurnool for an alleged temple of Sri Kanyakaparameswari in the Minchin bazaar ;

(b) whether the Government have instituted any inquiry as to the contents of the alleged temple and their ownership ;

(c) whether the Government are aware that in the alleged temple there is neither mula vigraha or uthsava vigrahas nor a dhwajasthamba; and

(d) whether the Government are aware that it is not a place of worship resorted to by all the Hindus or any section of them?

A.—(a) No; but a contribution is payable under section 69.

(b) No.

(c) The Government understand that there is a mula vigraham of Sri Kanyakaparameswari but no dhwajasthambam. It is not known whether there is an uthsava vigraham.

(d) No. After due inquiry, the Hindu Religious Endowments Board is satisfied that the shrine in question is a place of worship open to a section of the Hindu public and falling within the definition of 'temple' in the Hindu Religious Endowments Act.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, from the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government whether the mula vigraham spoken of here is movable or immovable ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Notice, Sir."

Contribution to the Hindu Religious Endowments Board by Sri Lakshmi Chermakeswaraswami temple of Markapur.

*847 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether contribution has been levied by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board from the income of Sri Lakshmi Chermakeswaraswami temple of Markapur in the Kurnool district;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said temple has no other income except tasdik allowance made by the Government from beriz deductions; and

(c) if answers to (a) and (b) be in the positive, whether he has any objection to exempt the said temple from the said contribution ?

A.—(a) The temple referred to is presumably the Sri Lakshmi Chermakeswaraswami temple at Markapur. The Hindu Religious Endowments Board has levied a contribution from this temple.

(b) The Hindu Religious Endowments Board reports that the temple has other sources of income.

(c) In view of the answer to clause (b) above, the question of exemption does not arise.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know, in regard to the answer to clause (b), what the other sources of income are that are mentioned there ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Notice."

Town-planning

Preparation of a town-planning scheme for Mangalore.

*848 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether in each and every one of the various town-planning and town-improvement schemes sanctioned by the Government the schemes were

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prepared after consulting in the prescribed manner the owners of lands and buildings in the area affected as required by section 11 of the Town-Planning Act;

(b) whether a town-planning scheme of block No. 10 in the municipal area of Mangalore was prepared and sanctioned after consulting the owners of lands and buildings concerned in the area affected, and if so, how;

(c) whether it is a fact that none of the owners were really consulted;

(d) what the main purposes of the scheme are, how they are to be carried out and at what cost approximately; and

(e) how the scheme referred to is to be financed and how the financial propositions have been worked out?

A.—(a) Attention of the hon. Member is invited to sections 9 and 10 of the Madras Town-Planning Act, 1920, which require that resolutions either to make or to adopt a scheme shall be published by notification for criticism.

(b) The block No. 10 Market Ward Town-planning scheme was called for by Government under section 12 of the Madras Town-Planning Act, and a notification therefor was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. No written objections or suggestions were submitted by the Council as required by section 14 (2) of the Act along with the draft scheme. The Government presumed that there were no objections or suggestions and accorded sanction.

(c) The Government have no information.

(d) & (e) A copy of G.O. No. 1304, P.H., dated 26th June 1928, which contains the information is placed on the table.[a]

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I enquire, Sir, whether apart from the notice required under section 9 or 10 of the Town-Planning Act, under section 11 persons affected were consulted ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is asking for an opinion."

Civil Justice

Construction of District Court buildings at Nellore.

849 *Q.*—Mr. C. VENKATARANGAM NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have repeatedly received representations from the District Judge of Nellore explaining the desirability of constructing new buildings on a suitable site for all the courts in the town;

(b) whether proposals have been received for the acquisition of a site in Darganiet for the construction of the court buildings; and

(c) what action has been taken thereon?

A.—(a) The Government are aware that the District Judge, Nellore, has made certain representations on the subject.

(b) & (c) The proposal for the acquisition of a site had to be dropped as such acquisition would have cost much more than the site by itself was worth owing to the existence on it of a building which would be of no use to the Judicial Department.

[a] Printed as Appendix VI on pages 528-531 infra

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Mr. MUHAMMAD KHADIR MOHIDIN SAHIB :—"In view of the anxiety of the litigant public to have all the courts in one place, will the Government be pleased to state whether they would acquire the site mentioned or any other site they may think best ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"We will not acquire the site in question, but with regard to the other point whether the Government will acquire any other site, I want notice."

Accommodation for the Bar room of the District Court at Mangalore.

*850 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) in what stage the question of providing additional accommodation for the Bar room of the District Court at Mangalore is at present ; and

(b) when it is proposed to start the work ?

A.—(a) & (b) The question is still under correspondence with the Executive Engineer and the District Judge, South Kanara.

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—"Will Government be pleased to expedite the matter ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I believe the matter is being expedited. Government have already sent reminders on the subject."

Opening of an additional sub-court at Mangalore.

*851 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have come to any decision on the opening of an additional sub-court at Mangalore ; and

(b) if not, why not ?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have sanctioned the appointment of an Additional Sub-Judge to the Sub-Court, Mangalore, with effect from the 1st December 1928.

District Munsifs holding appointments in their own districts.

*852 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased—

(a) to place before the Council a statement showing the names of the District Munsifs in this Presidency who are holding their appointments in their native districts and the number of years each has been within the same district during the last ten years ; and

(b) to state—

(i) whether there was a Government or High Court Standing Order that no District Munsif should as a rule be appointed within his own district ;

(ii) whether the practice of appointing District Munsifs within their own districts has been found by the Government or the High Court to be satisfactory ; and

(iii) whether any steps are contemplated by the Government or the High Court with a view to make appointments of District Munsifs as far away as possible from their own districts ?

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A.—(*a*) The Government do not consider it worth while collecting the information which necessitates an elaborate enquiry.

(*b*) (i) & (ii) Under the Government Servants' Conduct Rules, an officer of the Provincial or Subordinate Civil Service is liable to be debarred from employment 'within the district or other local limits' within which he possesses immovable property. The transfers and postings of District Munsifs are made by the High Court and the Government have no reason to think that they are not made in accordance with this rule.

(iii) This question does not arise in view of the answer to questions (i) and (ii) above.

Criminal Justice

Action taken against Mr. White for causing the death of a man in the Harbour premises.

*853 *Q.*—Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has perused the records of proceedings of the case against Mr. White which ended in his conviction for causing the death of a man in the Harbour premises ;

(*b*) whether the hon. Member passed orders directing the Crown Prosecutor to take the matter to the High Court for the purpose of having the sentence enhanced ;

(*c*) whether Europeans are specially privileged by the terms of licence or otherwise to practise rifle shooting in the precincts of the Harbour during day or night, and, if so, the reasons for the grant of the privilege ; and

(*d*) whether Mr. White is still permitted to possess firearms under licence or otherwise ?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Yes. Mr. White is permitted to possess his rifle under licence.

Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyr :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*d*), may I know the reasons why he is permitted to possess the licence in spite of the implications underlying his conviction ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" That question does not directly concern me, Sir. It concerns my hon. Colleague."

The hon. the President :—" The hon. Member will have to put a separate question to the hon. the Home Member."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" May I know from the hon. the Home Member what made him not to withdraw the licence from this gentleman ? "

The hon. the President :—" The hon. Member will have to put a separate question."

Mr. Daniel Thomas :—" May I know what the sentence was in this case ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" It is a fine, I think."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" May I know if the hon. Member made any recommendation to the hon. the Home Member to cancel his licence ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"No, no. It is not my concern."

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—"With reference to the answer to clause (c), are the Government taking any action against men who are practising rifle shooting in the precincts of the harbour without any special permission?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR: "We are considering the question, Sir."

Ill-treatment of the undertrial prisoners in the Trichinopoly Railway strike case.

*854-A Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 471, answered on 10th October 1928, regarding the ill-treatment of the undertrial prisoners in the Trichinopoly Railway strike case—

(a) whether the Government have received the report from the District Magistrate, Trichinopoly;

(b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, whether the Government will lay a copy of the report on the table; and

(c) the action the Government have taken on the report?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The facts reported by the District Magistrate relating to the allegations referred to in Mr. R. N. Ramaswami Ayyangar's letter, dated 16th September 1928, are as follows:—

(1) The motor bus which the District Superintendent of Police, Trichinopoly, had engaged for emergencies during the strike and for some weeks afterwards had been returned to the bus company. He therefore ordered that the accused should walk to the Court (distance about 3 miles) as he saw no reason to the contrary when the doctor had certified them all fit to do so.

(2) The existing rules lay down that all able-bodied prisoners should be required to walk to the Court. The six accused who complained of inability to walk had already been examined by the District Medical Officer and found fit to walk.

(c) The Government have since ordered that the prisoners should be conveyed to the Court in motor buses.

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"Is it the absence of a bus or on account of the certificate of the doctor as to the fitness of the prisoners that influenced the Government in taking the action they did? I am asking with reference to the answer to clause (b) (1), Sir."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"The Government have now ordered a bus to be provided."

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"What made the Government order the bus in spite of the certificate of the doctor?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Convenience of the prisoners."

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Alleged hardships of the undertrial prisoners in the South Indian Railway conspiracy trial at Trichinopoly.

* 854-B Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether in the South Indian Railway conspiracy trial now proceeding at Trichinopoly the accused are made to walk three to four miles from the Central Jail to the Court every morning;

(b) whether they have to take their lunch in verandas which are ill-kept;

(c) whether there is no provision for any room for defence lawyers to meet their clients and take instructions from them;

(d) whether the Government have received any complaints in regard to this matter from Mr. N. S. Ramaswami Ayyangar, Advocate for the accused;

(e) whether it is a fact that the police have refused to supply any bus for the conveyance of the accused from the Jail to the Court-house and back;

(f) whether the accused have to walk back again three to four miles after the rising of the Court for the day at 5 or 5-30 p.m. reaching the jail after darkness sets in which interferes with their prescribed meal time; and

(g) whether the Government have taken any action in the matter and if not, why not?

A.—(a) & (d) to (g) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 854-A.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information, but have called for it.

MR. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I know whether the Government have since issued orders to the police that the prisoners should be carried to the Court and back in buses?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Yes, Sir."

Alleged hardships of undertrial prisoners.

* 855 Q.—Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received complaints about the hardship caused to the undertrial prisoners—invalids and women—standing all the time they are being tried; and

(b) whether the Government propose to provide seating arrangements in docks in all criminal courts in the Province?

A.—(a) No.
(b) No.

Orders passed by the magistracy in this Presidency under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, from 1920—27.

* 856 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cases in which orders were passed by all classes of magistrates under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, in this Presidency in each of the years 1920 to 1927, both years inclusive, and how many of them were for preventing political meetings and processions;

(b) how many of them were issued with the previous approval of the Government and what were the reasons;

(c) whether the orders were re-issued in any particular cases; and

(d) whether, with regard to each case, any prosecutions were lodged for violation of the orders passed and the number of persons convicted in such prosecutions?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) Government have no information.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to call for the information ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No, Sir, it won't serve any useful purpose."

Remand of Abdul Gani to custody by the Sub-Magistrate, Koilpatti.

* 857 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether one Abdul Gani was remanded to custody in R.C. No. 19/27 in the Court of the Sub-Magistrate of Koilpatti in pursuance of a circular issued by the District Magistrate, Tinnevelly, that sub-magistrates trying P.R. cases should remand the accused to custody at the time of commitment to the Sessions Court and whether he was in jail for nearly a month though bail was offered in the Sub-Magistrate's Court at Koilpatti ?

A.—The Government have called for a report.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Have the Government received the report ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" If the Government have not received the report, why is the question answered in the agenda ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Because the hon. Member asked the question."

Alleged prohibition of a public meeting at Tiruvannamalai by the Sub-Magistrate.

* 858 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a public meeting held under the Congress auspices at Tiruvannamalai on 8th November 1928 was dispersed by the stationary sub-magistrate with the aid of police force present at the place;

(b) whether any order to disperse was given to the meeting under any provisions of the law; and

(c) the reasons why such a procedure was adopted ?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have called for a report.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Have the Government since received the report ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" When the report is received, will it be placed on the table of the House ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I shall consider my friend's suggestion."

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Alleged circular issued by the District Magistrate, Tinnevelly, regarding the trial of preliminary register cases.

*859-A Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a circular was issued by the District Magistrate, Tinnevelly, in 1926 and 1927 that sub-magistrates trying preliminary register cases should remand the accused to custody when they commit the case to the Sessions Court;

(*b*) whether after the above circular even in bailable offences, the accused are remanded at the time of committal to Sessions;

(*c*) whether the abovementioned circular is still in force;

(*d*) whether the Government have any intention of having the circular withdrawn; and

(*e*) if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer already given to question No. 1170 (starred) answered on 5th November 1927.

(*b*), (*c*), (*d*) & (*e*) A report has been called for from the District Magistrate.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Has the report been received?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"No, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"When the report is received, will the Government be pleased to lay it on the table?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I shall consider my friend's suggestion."

Alleged circular issued by the District Magistrate, Tinnevelly, regarding imprisonment of persons escaping from custody.

*859-B Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the District Magistrate, Tinnevelly, has recently issued a circular that in all cases of escape from custody the subordinate magistrate should give imprisonment as punishment whenever a case is made out against the accused;

(*b*) the officer on whose suggestion this circular was sent;

(*c*) whether it was on the suggestion of the Sessions Judge;

(*d*) whether the Government propose to issue orders to the District Magistrate to cancel his circular; and

(*e*) if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) The circular issued by the District Magistrate called attention to the practice of imposing small fines in cases of conviction for escape from the custody of the officers of the civil courts and directed that imprisonment should ordinarily be imposed for such grave offences against the State and public justice.

(*b*) & (*c*) The District Magistrate issued the circular as a result of his perusing a number of calendars in these cases.

(*d*) & (*e*) The Government do not see sufficient reason to cancel the circular.

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to clauses (*d*) and (*e*), may I ask the Government the reasons why they do not see their way to cancel this circular which interferes with the judicial discretion of magistrates in awarding punishments for offences by telling those magistrates ' whatever your view of the punishment may be, you shall award imprisonment' ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Because the district magistrate as the supervising magistrate in the district has power to give instructions to the subordinate magistracy."

Alleged complaints against Mr. Venkata Reddi, Sub-Magistrate of Arni.

* 860 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Mr. Venkata Reddi is the Sub-Magistrate of Arni, North Arcot district ;

(*b*) how long Mr. Venkata Reddi has been at Arni as Sub-Magistrate ;

(*c*) how many applications have been filed by parties for transfer of criminal proceedings from the file of this sub-magistrate during the six months ending with 30th September 1928 ;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that transfer applications have been filed even in cases which had far advanced and even by parties to whom the proceedings appeared to go favourably ;

(*e*) how many applications for transfer have been filed by parties even at the very commencement of criminal cases, during this period ;

(*f*) whether the Government are aware that the people of Arni, parties as well as practitioners, have no confidence about getting impartial justice from this officer ;

(*g*) whether any representation was made to the District Magistrate, North Arcot, expressing public dissatisfaction and want of confidence in this officer ; and

(*h*) whether Government are aware that there have been complaints about this officer from people in other stations where he had previously served as sub-magistrate ?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) For about a year.

(*c*) Five applications. The number of cases on his file was 500. One out of the five applications was for transfer to the Court of the Sub-Magistrate of Vellore, on the ground of public convenience. In two of the remaining four cases, the applications were rejected and in the other two, they were allowed.

(*d*) Yes, in one case. In this case, the application was rejected. There have been no applications such as those referred to in the latter part of the question.

(*e*) In three cases applications were made before the commencement of the Proceedings.

(*f*) No.

(*g*) No.

(*h*) There were no such complaints.

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Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Is it a fact that the magistrate has since been transferred to another place ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Notice."

Alleged irregularities in the conduct of a raffle for a motor-car in North Arcot district.

*861 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that a raffle for a motor-car was conducted by one Dinadayalu Mudaliyar, Member, District Board, North Arcot, some time back ;

(b) whether the police applied to the Subdivisional Magistrate, Ranipet, to take any steps in the matter ; and, if so, what ; and

(c) what action, if any, he or the District Magistrate took in the matter ?

A.—The Government have no information.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Is it a fact that the motor car raffled really belongs to the President of the District Board, North Arcot, Mr. K. Krishnaswami Nayudu Garu ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Government have no information."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Will the Government call for the information ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Is it a fact that the staff of the District Board of North Arcot sold the tickets and whether other members of the staff were practically compelled to buy the tickets ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

Forests

Prohibition of shooting, etc., in the forests of Dharakota estate.

*862 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the forests reserved under sections 22, 26, 32 in the proprietary forests of Dharakota estate, Ganjam district, have been blocked and demarcated and that with proper cairns ;

(b) whether any Government officer was deputed and whether he submitted a report that the above works have been done ;

(c) whether any officer has been appointed as Forest Settlement Officer to enquire into the rights of ryots, and the insufficiency or otherwise of unreserved forests ;

(d) whether any portion of the forest has been set apart for grazing in conformity with the immemorial rights of the ryots to graze cattle ;

(e) the reason why Government have prohibited shooting in the forests ;

(f) the number of forest cases filed by the Raja in each of the years 1925, 1926 and 1927 ; and

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(*g*) whether it is a fact that compounding fee collected by the estate is far in excess of the rules and that no report is sent to the Tahsildar or Magistrate in the form required by the rules?

A—(*a*) Yes. The reserves of (1) Chapidiya, (2) Rongomotiya, (3) Baduva, (4) Bododonda, (5) Bhumidhimiripolli and (6) Gudiya and Suliya are reported to have been demarcated, blocked and fixed with cairns. Some of the cairns are of stone, others are of mud. Wooden posts were erected in some places.

(*b*) No Government officer was appointed but the Raja had it done privately.

(*c*) No forest settlement officer was appointed.

(*d*) Sufficient unreserves are reported to have been set apart for grazing purposes, but some villages have no unreserves at all. A copy of the statement [a] showing the approximate extent of the grazing area in each village furnished by the Raja is enclosed.

(*e*) The Government did not prohibit shooting in the forests. On the other hand Government have refused to sanction the extension of the game rules to the estate forests.

(*f*) No cases were filed in the years 1925 and 1926. In 1927 two cases were filed and they ended in acquittal under sections 245 and 247, Criminal Procedure Code.

(*g*) No compounding fees were collected by the Raja in 1925, 1926 and 1927. No reports were submitted to the Tahsildar-Magistrate in the prescribed form. The system of sending reports has just been commenced in 1928. In one case, the report in the prescribed form was received in the Tahsildar-Magistrate's Office, Aska.

11-45 a.m. Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo:—"With reference to clause (*b*), do Government think that the Raja of Dharakota would have done the work himself impartially? Is it not a fact that the Act requires that Government officials should be deputed to do the work?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government believe that he has done it impartially."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo:—"With regard to (*d*), it is said that 'Sufficient unreserves are reported to have been set apart for grazing purposes.' May I know by whom it is reported and whether the Government have verified the accuracy of the statement?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"With reference to the first part of the question, I want notice; with reference to the second part, the answer is 'No.'"

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo:—"Will the Government be pleased to depute an officer just to verify the statement?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I shall consider my hon. Friend's suggestion, Sir."

[a] Printed as Appendix VII on pages 532–533 infra.

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Appointment of a committee to enquire into the forest grievances of ryots.

*863-A Q.—Mr. K. R. Karant: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have arrived at any, and, if so, what decision on the resolution passed in this Council on 6th September 1928 regarding the appointment of a committee to enquire into the forest grievances of ryots and the policy of Government; and

(b) if not, why not?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member's attention is drawn to the answer to question No. 726 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty.

Mr. K. R. Karant:—"May I know when the Government hope to come to a decision, Sir."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"I cannot say, Sir."

Appointment of a committee to enquire into the forest grievances of the ryots.

*863-B Q.—Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have considered the question of appointing a committee of the members of this Council to enquire into the grievances and hardships of the ryots in the forest areas of the province in accordance with the resolution passed in this Council on 6th September 1928 and to what conclusions the Government have come; and

(b) if a committee has been appointed, who are the members of the committee?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 726 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty.

Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao:—"Are the Government going to appoint a committee or not?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"That is the point which is under the consideration of the Government."

Alleged closing of a path in Odugathur Reserve Forest, North Arcot district.

*864 Q.—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that an admitted right of way that was long in use in Odugathur Reserve Forest (North Arcot district) for cattle and men was suddenly closed in March last and whether even "permitted" cattle were thus not able to enter the forest;

(b) whether it is a fact that permission to take manure leaves is not given in this reserve, even under the usual conditions;

(c) whether it is a fact that in forests under panchayat management in the same district removal of manure leaves is permitted;

(d) whether the affected ryots belonging to several villages appealed to the Conservator of Forests for justice and whether they even telegraphed for immediate redress of grievances; and

(e) what action has been taken by the Conservator in this matter?

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A.— (*a*) *to* (*e*) The Government have no information but have called for it.

Hydro-Electric Schemes

Investigation of the Papanasam Reservoir scheme.

*865 *Q.*—The ZAMINDAR OF SINGAMPATTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) at what stage the investigation of the Papanasam Reservoir scheme in the Tinnevelly district stands at present;

(*b*) whether the Government propose to make it serviceable as an irrigation project also; and if not, why not;

(*c*) whether the Government will consider the advisability of making the project suitable for supplementing ordinary irrigation on the Tambraparni River; and

(*d*) whether the Government will be pleased to place all the material papers connected with the subject on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member presumably refers to the Papanasam Hydro-electric scheme. If so, his attention is invited to the answers to clauses (*b*) and (*c*) of question No. 664.

(*c*) This can be considered only after it is definitely decided to proceed with the scheme to develop electric power.

(*d*) The scheme is still under consideration and the papers cannot be placed on the Council table at this stage.

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—"May I know, Sir, whether in view of the frequent failures of crops in the Tinnevelly district the Government do not consider the scheme as one of urgent necessity?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"My hon. Friend presumably is referring to the question of irrigation. Hydro-electricity has nothing to do with the failure of crops."

Jails

Water-supply in jails.

*866 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether complaints have been made to Government that the wells in all the jails except Rajahmundry contain only polluted water; and

(*b*) if so, what steps are being taken to improve the quality of water-supply in these jails?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member is apparently referring to paragraph 3 of Part II (*d*) of the report of the King Institute, Guindy, for 1927-28 and paragraph 9 of G.O. No. 1916, P.H., dated 18th September 1928. A report has been called for.

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Panchayat Courts

Transfer of Tekkate village to the jurisdiction of the Ultur Panchayat Court.

*867 Q.—Mr K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Tekkate village, No. 60, Coondapoor taluk, is now under the jurisdiction of the Koteshwar Panchayat Court as before or of any other court;

(b) whether the residents protested against their village being brought under the Ultur Court in about June last;

(c) whether they made a petition, dated 22nd June 1928, to the hon. the Commissioner of Land Revenue protesting against the transfer and with what result; and

(d) whether Government propose to retransfer the village to the Koteshwar Panchayat Court after consulting the wishes of the residents and, if not, why not?

A.—(a) The village of Tekkate, which was originally within the local jurisdiction of the Koteshwar Panchayat Court, was transferred to that of the Ultur Panchayat Court with effect from the 1st September 1928.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information.

(d) No facts have been brought to the notice of Government to justify the action proposed

Stamps

Selling of court-fee stamps up to Rs. 100 through stamp-vendors.

*868 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether Government have arrived at any decision on the question of selling court-fee stamps up to Rs. 100 through vendors, with reference to the cut in the demand for stamps during the last budget debate?

A.—The subject is under the consideration of the Government.

Finance

Utilization of the remitted provincial contributions.

*869 Q.—Mr. S SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have laid down or propose to lay down a policy for the appropriation of the three crores and a half of provincial contributions now wiped out;

(b) whether such a policy includes the lowering of taxation which has been raised recently in the province, and if not, why not; and

(c) what such a policy is and whether the Council will be given an opportunity of expressing its opinion thereon?

A.—(a) The final budget estimate for the current year 1928–29, after taking into account the remission of the whole provincial contribution of Rs. 348 lakhs, provided for an excess of expenditure on revenue account over anticipated revenues of Rs. 8·30 lakhs.

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(*b*) A statement of the items involving loss of revenue arising out of the budget estimate for 1928-29 was printed as an appendix to the speech introducing the budget estimates of the year.

(*c*) The financial policy of the Government comes under examination by the Council during the budget discussions of each year; the estimates for 1929-30 will be placed before the Council on 26th February 1929.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to clause (*b*) of the question, I find on a reference to the appendix to the speech introducing the budget estimates of the year, that the total recurring loss of revenue to the Government was 7·79 lakhs. May I know, apart from that, whether the Government have any proposals for lowering the taxation as regards the next year ?"

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" The answer to the question will be found under clause (*c*)."

Mr S. SATYAMURTI :—" The answer says it is for the Council to decide it. I ask whether, so far as the Government is concerned, which introduces the budget, they have any proposals for lowering the taxation ?"

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" They will be placed before the house in connexion with the estimates for 1929-30."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask whether in view of getting the opinion of the Council as to the proper distribution of the remitted provincial contributions the Government propose to take the opinion of the Council as regards the lowering of taxation ?"

The hon Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" It will obviously be done in connexion with the budget."

Railways

Opening of the railway line between Cuddalore O.T. and Vriddhachalam.

* 870 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the new railway line between Cuddalore O.T. and Vriddhachalam was originally planned to run between Porto Novo and Vriddhachalam ;

(*b*) if so, what are the reasons for altering the original plans and estimates and at whose suggestion and recommendation it was done ;

(*c*) whether public opinion was consulted by the authorities before the alteration was made and whether any commercial experts recommended the alterations of the said railway line, and what were the advantages gained by such an alteration ;

(*d*) whether the Government have received complaints that the opening of the new railway line between Cuddalore O.T. and Vriddhachalam is likely to seriously affect the commercial prosperity of Porto Novo and minimize its export trade and hamper its growth as a seaport ; and

(*e*) if not, whether the Government will investigate into the manner in, and extent to, which the opening of the new railway line has affected the export and import trade at Porto Novo and lay the report of such investigation on the table of the House ?

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A.—As the hon. Member is aware, Railways is a 'Central' subject.

(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) A survey of a line from Salem to Porto Novo *via* Chinna Salem and Vriddhachalam appears to have been made in 1885-86, but the proposal did not materialize. The question of constructing a line from Vriddhachalam to Cuddalore was raised by the District Board of South Arcot in 1904 in connexion with a proposal made by Messrs Parry & Co. to construct a light railway between the two places. Whether Porto Novo would offer the same advantages as a terminus as Cuddalore was considered by the District Board and it finally selected Cuddalore. The Cuddalore Landing and Shipping Fees Committee, the Port Officer, Cuddalore, and the South Indian Railway authorities also favoured Cuddalore—the main reasons being that Cuddalore Port offers greater facilities for trade and that the Cuddalore-Vriddhachalam line is preferable from an engineering point of view.

(*d*) The Government are aware that a good deal of the ground-nut crop of Vriddhachalam will probably be sent by rail to Cuddalore instead of, as in the past, by road to Porto Novo.

(*e*) Does not arise.

Betting

Licence fees for bucket shops in the Madras City.

*871 *Q.*—Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the licence fees, if any, collected by the Commissioner of Police, Madras City, permitting the running of bucket shops; and

(*b*) whether Government propose to introduce in the Council the Bill for the suppression of bucket shops alias sports clubs at its next sittings, and, if not, the reasons for the delay?

A.—(*a*) No such licence fee is collected by the Commissioner of Police.

(*b*) The Bill had to be referred to various officers of Government. Their replies have been received and examined by Government. It has been re-drafted and is under scrutiny. After the Government of India's sanction is obtained, it will be introduced in the Council.

Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar :—"May I know if any kind of fee or tax is collected?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"No, Sir."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—"Will the Government be pleased to expedite the introduction of the Bill?"

The hon Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"I shall do so, Sir."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—"May I know in what stage the Bill is—whether it is re-drafted, whether any scrutiny has taken place or whether it has been sent to the Government of India for sanction?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"The Bill is now being examined by the administrative department."

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Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know whether it is not desirable that these places should be licensed as places of public resort by the police in view of the fact that riots and disturbances very often take place owing to non-payment or delayed payment of money and very often the police have to be called in ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Notice, Sir."

Criminal Tribes

Management and location of criminal settlements in Andhra districts.

* 872-A Q.—The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many criminal settlements are maintained by the Government in the Andhra country and where they are located ;

(*b*) the amount spent on each settlement in each year ;

(*c*) to whom the settlements are entrusted for management ;

(*d*) what is the amount sanctioned for supervising the charges of each settlement ; and

(*e*) the date when each centre was established ?

A.—(*a*) There are four criminal tribes settlements in Telugu districts maintained by Government and they are located in the following places :—

(1) Sitanagaram—Guntur district.
(2) Stuartpuram— do.
(3) Kavali, including Allur and Bitragunta—Nellore district.
(4) Siddhapuram—Kurnool district.

(*b*) The figures of expenditure are given in the Annual Civil Budget Estimates. The figures for the last three years are—

	1925-26.	1926-27.	1927-28.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Sitanagaram ...	33,561	19,901	19,868
Stuartpuram ...	22,847	23,748	24,732
Kavali ...	89,998	86,694	96,020
Siddhapuram ...	3,187 [a]	4,670 [a]	5,591 [a]

[a] Excludes pay of manager.

(*c*) The first two settlements Sitanagaram and Stuartpuram are under the management of the Salvation Army, the Kavali settlement is under the management of the American Baptist Mission and the Siddhapuram settlement is under Government management.

(*d*) The supervision charges fixed for the first three settlements are—

Sitanagaram	Rs. 7,450
Stuartpuram	" 7,910
Kavali	From Rs. 30,620 to Rs. 36,727 (maximum).

The Siddhapuram settlement being under Government management, no specific supervision charge has been fixed for it. The current year's budget provision for pay of establishments,

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allowances and non-contract contingencies is Rs. 2,600, excluding the pay of the manager of the settlement who is an Inspector of Police on Rs. 175 a month.

(e) The four settlements were established in the years noted against each—

	Year.
Sitanagaram	1913
Stuartpuram	1914
Kavali	1912
Siddhapuram	1913

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—"May I know whether the Government have considered the desirability of placing the Kavali settlement under the Police department ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"No, Sir, we have not considered it."

Number of settlers in settlements.

* 872-B Q.—The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of settlers in each settlement with their religions ;

(b) how many families have taken up Christianity up to the end of 1927 after admission into the settlement;

(c) what is the number of Hindus as compared with converted Christians among the settlers in each settlement; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the managing bodies are forcing the settlers to become converts to Christianity ?

A.—(a) (b) & (c) The hon. Member is referred to paragraph 69 of the Labour Department Administration Report for 1927–28 in which are given the number of settlers in each settlement. The Government have no information as to the religion of the settlers or as to the points mentioned in clauses (b) and (c).

(d) The Government have no reason for thinking that any such practice exists.

Mr. V. RAMJEE RAO :—"May I know whether the Government will call for information regarding the religion of the settlers and the other points mentioned in clauses (b) and (c) ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I have no objection."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS :—"May I know whether any single case of conversion was brought to the notice of Government ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"No, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"With reference to clause (d), may I know what are the enquiries made or the facts ascertained by the Government for saying 'The Government have no reason for thinking that any such practice exists'?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Because no facts have come to our notice."

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Mr S. SATYAMURTI :—"Have they made any enquiry at all ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "No."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"Will they make it now ?"

Management of criminal settlements by social workers.

* 872-C Q.—The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether during 1926–27 or 1927–28 any social workers offered to take up the work connected with the criminal settlements if entrusted and, if so, who they were and what was the Government's reply to them ; and

(b) whether the Government propose to change the management and, if not, why not ?

A.—M.R.Ry. Ramjee Rao Garu, M.L.C., requested the Government in 1927 to transfer to his charge the Sitanagaram and Stuartpuram settlements in the Guntur district. He was told that the transfer could not be made. The Salvation Army authorities are managing the settlements efficiently and the Government do not consider it desirable to change the present management.

Emigration

Working hours in the emigration depot at Avadi.

* 873-A Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the medical officer in charge of the emigration depot, Avadi, extracts work from labourers, both male and female, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and

(b) whether it is a fact that women emigrants are made to gather cow-dung in the forests throughout the day in the months of May, June and July ?

A.—The Government have no information but will enquire.

Inspection of the Avadi emigration depot by honorary visitors.

* 873-B Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the medical officer in charge of the emigration depot at Avadi, in the Chingleput district, refuses to allow honorary visitors to inspect the depot without his previous permission ;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaints that the medical officer treated Mr. M Seshachariyar, an honorary visitor, with scant courtesy since he tried to inspect the depot without the previous permission of the officer ;

(c) whether there is any rule that honorary visitors should visit the depots only after giving previous notice and after obtaining the permission of the medical officer ; and

(d) if the answer to clause (c) be in the affirmative, what the purpose of the visit of non-official honorary visitors to the depot is and what are their duties ?

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A.—(*a*) The Government have no information.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative.

(*c*) There is no such rule.

(*d*) Does not arise.

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"In view of the fact that Government is not in possession of the information, may I ask the hon. the Home Member if he will answer the question as soon as the information is available ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I shall consider the suggestion"

Appointment of honorary visitor to the emigration depot at Avadi.

* 873-C Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that one Mr. V. Varadachariyar, village munsif of Paruthippattu, was selected by the Government as an honorary visitor for the emigration depot at Avadi ;

(*b*) whether the Commissioner of the emigration depot objected to the appointment of the gentleman referred to in clause (*a*) ;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that at the intervention of the Labour Commissioner, the District Revenue Officers persuaded Mr. V. Varadachariyar to resign his post ;

(*d*) whether Mr. Varadachariyar has since resigned his post ;

(*e*) whether the Government in making appointments of honorary visitors do so in accordance with the opinion of the Commissioner of the emigration depot ; and

(*f*) whether in the first instance, the appointment of Mr. Varadachariyar was objected to by the Commissioner of the emigration depot, but was approved by the Protector of Emigrants ?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) The Government have no information.

(*e*) The Government do not consult the Emigration Commissioner in making the appointments of non-official visitors to emigration depots.

(*f*) The Government have no information.

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"With reference to (*c*), may I crave your leave to ask the Labour Commissioner if he has intervened in the matter ?"

The hon the PRESIDENT :—"I do not think any hon. Member of the House can be subjected to answering a question till the matter is actually under the consideration of the House. If the hon. Member (Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar) can so manage as to bring the matter to the consideration of the House then he will be in a position to put the question to the Labour Commissioner."

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Motor Vehicles Act

Control of motor traffic in the Madras City.

* 874 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what the actual steps are that have been taken this year for the control of motor traffic in the City of Madras;

(b) how far these have proved effective in reducing accidents; and

(c) whether the measures adopted in the Madras City have been extended or are proposed to be extended to the mufassal also?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to Notification No. 824, dated 30th October 1928, published at pages 1729–30 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 6th November 1928.

(b) As the orders contained in the notification referred to in answer to clause (a) above have been issued only recently, it is too premature to say anything definite at present.

(c) Amendment I of the amendments contained in the notification referred to in answer to clause (a) above is applicable to the mufassal also.

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN:—"May I know, Sir, from the hon. the Home Member whether all these rules that were drafted by the Commissioner of Police have been accepted by the Government, and if so, whether any effect was given to these rules even before the Government accepted them?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The rules were examined by Government, and whatever orders the Government thought fit to pass were passed."

Police

Alleged irregular conduct of the Police officers in the Kistna district.

* 875 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: With reference to question No. 1786 answered on 23rd March 1928 regarding a petition from one Somayya about the alleged irregular conduct of the Deputy Superintendent of Police and other officers in the Kistna district, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any enquiry was made on the charges framed against the officers concerned, and with what result;

(b) whether the enquiry was made in the presence of the parties concerned;

(c) if not, when it is to be held;

(d) whether any, and, if so, what charges were framed against the Deputy Superintendent of Police concerned, and by whom the enquiry was made as to the charges;

(e) whether an explanation was taken from him and, if so, what it was;

(f) whether the same Deputy Superintendent of Police was ordered to make enquiry as to the charges against one B. V. Devar in which he was also implicated, and, if so, under what circumstances and why the statutory rules were not observed;

(g) whether the officers concerned were holding office in the district pending the enquiry and, if not, why;

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(*h*) whether any proceedings have been started under the directions of the High Court of Madras against the officers concerned in the Guntur counterfeit case and, if so, with what result; and

(*i*) whether it is a fact that the abovementioned Somayya is harassed and prosecuted by the police authorities, especially by the Sub-Inspector of Jaggayapet under the instructions of the Deputy Superintendent of Police?

A.—(*a*) Yes. One Inspector was dismissed, another censured and a third warned. One head constable was also warned. The Deputy Superintendent of Police's case is still under consideration.

(*b*) & (*c*) The enquiry was made in the presence of the parties.

(*d*) & (*e*) The Government cannot answer these at present as the case against the Deputy Superintendent of Police is still under consideration.

(*f*) Yes. Sub-Inspector Devar was charged with substituting a search list for the original in a house breaking case. The Deputy Superintendent of Police was not implicated in the matter.

(*g*) Sub-Inspector B. V. Devar was under suspension during the enquiry.

(*h*) No such proceedings have been started under the directions of the High Court.

(*i*) No.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether the Deputy Superintendent of Police continues to be in office in the area where Somayya is living?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Notice, Sir."

Training to sub-inspectors of police in regard to the investigation of crime.

* 876 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are considering the question of giving better training to the police sub-inspectors in regard to the investigation and detection of crime; and

(*b*) if so, what steps they propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No proposal affecting the training of sub-inspectors is at present under consideration.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether the work of police sub-inspectors has been found generally unsatisfactory in regard to investigation and detection of crime?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, Sir."

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Percentage of crimes detected in South Kanara.

*877 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there is a great decline in the percentage of crimes detected in South Kanara and, if so, why; and

(*b*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take to make detective work more efficient in this district?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have called for a report.

Alleged shooting by Mr. A. F. Bulkley, Superintendent, Railway Police, Trichinopoly.

*878 Q.—Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state with reference to his answer to my question No. 552 answered on 12th October 1928—

(*a*) whether any action has been taken against the reserve policeman who caused injuries;

(*b*) whether any statement was made by the said policeman who opened the fire and if so, what its details are;

(*c*) whether any statement was taken from or made by the injured person and, if so, what its details are;

(*d*) what were the nature of the injuries described in the medical certificate and the opinion of the medical officer touching the nature of the firearms with which the injuries might have been caused;

(*e*) how the policeman who caused the injuries happened to possess the firearms;

(*f*) what was the nature of the firearms used by the policeman, gun, revolver or what;

(*g*) whether it is a fact that the District Superintendent of Police, South Arcot, sent a report to the Inspector-General of Police touching the shooting incident;

(*h*) whether any report touching the incident was made by Mr. A. F. Bulkley to the Inspector-General of Police or to Government and, if so, to place it on the table;

(*i*) how many reports were made by the District Magistrate of South Arcot touching the shooting incident and the dates thereof;

(*j*) whether Mr. Bulkley gave any version to the District Magistrate regarding this incident on or about the 21st July last and, if so, the details thereof; and

(*k*) whether the transfer of Mr. Bulkley to Malabar as Superintendent of Police has anything to do with the said shooting incident?

A.—(*a*) & (*k*) The reply is in the negative.

(*b*) *to* (*j*) In connection with the disturbances at Villupuram in the course of which the firing took place, a case is now pending before the courts in which the whole incident and its attendant circumstances are relevant matters. The whole matter being thus *sub-judice*, the Government are unable at present to go into it or to furnish the desired information.

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Conveyances from the jail to the court for the undertrial accused in the Trichinopoly Railway strike case.

879-A Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what the number of undertrial accused in the Trichinopoly Railway strike case is;

(b) what the distance is from the central jail to the court of the special magistrate, Trichinopoly;

(c) what sort of conveyance has been provided for the accused and how many such conveyances have been engaged for the purpose;

(d) whether it is a fact that one of the undertrial accused requested the special magistrate to provide a few more conveyances; and

(e) whether the special magistrate has now passed orders granting his request?

A.—(a) to (e) The Government have no information; they have called for it.

Alleged request of the undertrial accused in the Trichinopoly strike case to hold the court nearer the jail.

879-B Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the undertrial accused in the Trichinopoly strike case requested the special magistrate to hold the court in a place nearer to the jail so that speedy justice could be had;

(b) whether their request has been granted; and

(c) if not, why not?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) The Government having sanctioned the provision of conveyance to the prisoners under trial the need for complying with their request ceased.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA:—"May I know why was this request not granted?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Because a motor bus has now been provided for taking these prisoners to the court, there is no necessity for holding the court near the jail."

Proposed appointment of separate surgeons for police officials.

880 Q.—Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that separate police surgeons in the hospitals are proposed to be appointed for the police officers; whether such appointments are made in any other province in India;

(b) what is the recurring and non-recurring expenditure involved in such a proposal and at whose initiative such a proposal is made;

(c) whether the present system in vogue has been found defective; and, if so, how; and when and by whom;

(*d*) whether this new proposal is made because the surgeons are not subordinates of the Police Commissioner and grant certificates without fear or favour when police officers apply for the same; and

(*e*) what is the actual number of police executive officers in the higher and lower grades who applied for medical certificates during the years from 1924 to 1927?

A.—(*a*) (1) The Government cannot discuss at the present stage any proposals now engaging their attention.

(2) There are city police surgeons in Bombay, Calcutta and Rangoon.

(*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) See answer to clause (*a*).

(*e*) The Government have no information.

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether there is any proposal at all before the Government to constitute separate hospitals for the police officers ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" As I said yesterday, it is confidential and it is now under the consideration of Government."

Enquiry into the murder of a student in Mannadi, Madras.

* 881 Q.—Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he is aware of the gruesome murder of a student that took place in the latter house in Ramaswami street, the one parallel to the Nattukottai Chetti street, Mannadi, Madras City;

(*b*) the reasons for the delay in bringing the offenders to justice;

(*c*) whether he has issued orders for the employment of a special detective staff, local or imported, for finding out the offenders; if not, why not; and

(*d*) whether he will be pleased to lay on the table of the House the explanation of the police authorities justifying the inordinate delay in bringing to trial the offenders?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No evidence as to who the murderer is has yet been obtained. Investigation is proceeding.

(*c*) No orders have been issued by Government; the matter is one within the competence of the Commissioner of Police.

(*d*) Police authorities can act only on evidence; they have not yet been able to secure any.

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" With reference to clause (*c*) of the question, may I know whether the police authorities have carried on any investigation into this matter or whether they are carrying on any investigation now ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :— " They are carrying on the investigation."

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Agency

Possibilities of developing the Agency tracts.

882 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have deputed one Mr. D. G. Munro to report on the possibilities of developing the Agency tracts;

(b) whether he has made any report; and

(c) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place it on the table of the House?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The report is under the consideration of the Government. The suggestion of the hon. Member will be borne in mind.

Mitigation of malaria in Agency tracts.

*883 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. D. G. Munro has suggested that an experiment should be tried for the mitigation of malaria in the Agency tracts by growing wild scented clover (Tribola-de-ola); and

(b) whether it is a fact that the growth of the said plant has made Egypt and Argentine immune from malaria?

A.—(a) Mr. Munro has drawn the attention of the Government to the benefits which might accrue from the trial of various leguminous plants from the point of view of their effect on malarial mosquitoes.

(b) Mr. Munro quotes certain authorities in support of this theory.

Assignment of Lands

Transfer of certain pasture porambokes to 'Ayan' in Paravathoor village.

*884-A Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have perused the mahazar sent by the ryots of Paravathoor village, Arkonam taluk, North Arcot district, to the Board of Revenue objecting to the transferring of certain pasture porambokes to 'Ayan';

(b) whether it is a fact that in the recent resettlement these lands were set apart for grazing;

(c) whether it is a fact that 85 out of 127 acres set apart for grazing were transferred to 'Ayan' and reserved for Adi-Dravidas and depressed classes by the District Collector, North Arcot; and

(d) whether it is a fact that besides this there is no pasture land for the cattle of the village?

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A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) *to* (*d*) At resettlement an extent of 127·04 acres was described as grazing poramboke. Of this area 78·94 acres have since been transferred to ayan and 4·93 acres to house-site poramboke for assignment to Adi-Dravidas. In addition to the 43·17 acres still remaining registered as grazing ground poramboke, an extent of 233·41 acres of tank-bed land in the Paranji Eri is available for grazing.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Is it not a fact that at the resettlement land has been set apart which is available for assignment to the Adi-Dravidas without encroaching upon grazing poramboke?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"Not in that village."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"May I know whether in any other village at least in North Arcot district such land is made available and, if so, why?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I am not aware that in any village where such land is available any transfer from grazing ground to ayan was made."

Transfer of grazing lands to 'Ayan' in North Arcot district.

* 884-B *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that lands reserved for grazing in most villages in North Arcot district have been transferred to 'Ayan' and assigned on *pattas* during the last two years;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the present Collector of North Arcot district has been following this policy systematically;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that, when the ryots objected to this policy of assignment, the District Collector advised the ryots to graze their cattle in their *patta* lands;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that survey Nos. 37 and 377 in Raghunadasamudram village, Wandiwash taluk, North Arcot district, originally set apart for grazing were recently ordered by the present Collector to be transferred to *ayan*; and

(*e*) whether Government will be pleased to call for a report on such transfers, if any, of grazing lands to *ayan* during the two years ending 30th September 1928?

A.—(*a*) The only information available with the Government relates to Paravattur village, Arkonam taluk This information is given in the answer to question No. 884-A. 1161.

(*b*) The Government presume that the Collector of North Arcot is following the policy outlined in G.O. No. 3034, Revenue, dated 24th August 1918, which was laid on the Council table on 26th August 1927.

(*c*) & (*d*) The Government have not the information asked for.

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(e) The Government do not propose to call for a report in view of the orders in G.O. No. 3034, Revenue, dated 24th August 1918. They will always be prepared to consider individual cases on their merits if the parties concerned feel it necessary to appeal from any orders of the local authorities and the Board of Revenue.

Assignment of waste lands in Kaikalur taluk, Kistna district.

885 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of Government assessed waste fit for wet cultivation in Kaikalur taluk, Kistna district, excluding Kollair region;

(b) the extent of Government assessed waste in Kollair region in the said taluk; and

(c) whether the Government intend to assign these lands on darkhast for cultivation purposes to people of all castes and creeds who own no lands?

A.—(a) & (b) The figures asked for are not available and would have to be specially compiled.

(c) Assessed waste is ordinarily available on darkhast. A scheme for irrigating the waste lands in certain villages of the Kaikalur taluk is under investigation and should the scheme prove feasible and remunerative the lands will be sold. Meantime they are not available on darkhast.

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know who is investigating into this question and at what stage it is?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"The Public Works Department."

Assignment of kumki lands in South Kanara district.

* 886-A Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number and extent of kumki lands in South Kanara talukwar which have been assigned away by Government to third parties against the consent of the owner of the wargs to which they are kumki in each of the last five years;

(b) on what grounds the Government justify such assignments;

(c) whether Government received any complaints from people of South Kanara against such assignments as unjust; and

(d) whether Government propose to put a stop to such a practice in the future at least?

A.—(a) The Government have not the details asked for, as the rules do not require the consent of the wargdar to the assignment of kumki lands.

(b) to (d) The Government have received a memorial setting out certain grievances in regard to the treatment of kumki and waste lands. A report has been called for from the Board of Revenue.

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Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" May I ask what the object of giving kumki privileges is, if they are to be assigned without the consent of the wargdar ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" That is a matter of opinion, Sir, really."

Assignment of kumki lands in Derebail village.

* 886-B Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what is the total extent of S. No. 22 of Derebail village, Mangalore taluk, South Kanara district ;

(*b*) how much of it is kumki ;

(*c*) what is the portion already assigned out of it (i) which is kumki, (ii) which is non-kumki ;

(*d*) to how many persons it has been so assigned ;

(*e*) what are the terms of the grant ;

(*f*) when were the assignments made ;

(*g*) how many have built houses on it or otherwise complied with the terms of the grant ;

(*h*) what is the remaining extent now, and how much of it is kumki and to how many owners they belong ;

(*i*) whether it is a fact that even this extent of kumki is proposed to be assigned away to third parties ;

(*j*) whether it is a fact that criminal force and intimidation are being or intended to be used by the local authorities to overawe the owners ; and

(*k*) whether Government propose to stop this assignment of the kumki portion at once ; if not, why not ?

A.—(*a*) 68·80 acres, according to the Survey and Settlement Register of the village prepared in 1904.

(*b*) *to* (*k*) The Government have not the information asked for ; they do not propose to call for a report or intervene in the matter unless any person interested appeals to them in the usual course.

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" May I ask why Government refuse to call for a report in respect of clauses (*b*) to (*i*) of the question, whatever may be said with respect to (*j*) and (*k*) ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Because it all depends on the circumstances of the case. If people who are aggrieved will appeal, we can take definite action and pass definite orders. A general report will take us nowhere."

Assignment of lands in the Vavveru reserve to the depressed classes.

*887 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have abandoned the idea of giving lands of Vavveru reserve in Nellore district to the depressed classes ; and if so, why ;

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(b) whether they propose to open a cattle and agricultural farm there; and

(c) whether the Government have come to any decision on the question of providing irrigation facilities for those lands?

A.—(a) No. The question is under consideration.
(b) Not at present.
(c) The Government have recently approved the investigation of a scheme to provide irrigation under the Kanigiri Reservoir of the Sangam delta, for certain disafforested lands in Vavveru and other villages.

Constitution of Districts, Divisions and Taluks

Alleged memorial regarding the transfer of the Thekkalur village to the Avanashi taluk.

*888 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the residents of Thekkalur village of Palladam taluk in the Coimbatore district have sent a memorial to the Board of Revenue that their village may be transferred to the Avanashi taluk;

(b) whether the Board of Revenue have disposed of the memorial and, if so, to what effect; and

(c) whether Government have any proposal before them regarding this matter and, if not, whether they have any objection to consider the same?

A.—(a) Yes.
(b) The matter is under the consideration of the Board of Revenue.
(c) No. The Government will consider any proposals that the Board of Revenue may submit on the subject.

Economic Condition

Report about the condition of villages in Godavari and Kistna districts.

*889 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the report referred to in the answer to my question No. 531 answered on 11th October 1928 regarding enquiries into the condition of villages in Godavari and Kistna districts, has been received; and

(b) if so, whether it will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—(a) Yes.
(b) Yes.

Floods

Damages caused at Tuni and adjacent villages by recent floods.

*890 Q.—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the stream running between Tuni in East Godavari district and Payakaraopeta, flowed to a height of nearly 20 feet over the railway bridge and inundated the adjacent villages of Tuni and Payakaraopeta;

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(b) whether the inundation resulted in the loss of human lives and cattle and if so, what is the extent of the loss;

(c) whether a number of houses including some upstair houses fell down and if so, how many;

(d) whether goods were washed away to the value of some thousands and if so, to what extent;

(e) whether the hospital with all the stock of medicines was washed away;

(f) whether it is a fact that some dead bodies were lying in the streets unlooked for, for some days;

(g) whether foodstuffs on account of this devastation rose very high in prices and if so, to what extent; and

(h) what measures the Government have taken to give relief?

A.—(a), (b), (c), (d) & (h) The hon. Member is referred to the report of the Collector of East Godavari, dated 9th November 1928, and the Government orders on the subject that have been placed on the table of the House [a] which contain the information in possession of the Government.

(e), (f) & (g) It is presumed the hon. Member refers to Tuni. A report has been called for on these points.

Inland Waterways

Restrictions on vessels plying in the Godavari river.

891 Q.—Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu: With reference to the answer given to question No. 548 on 12th October 1928 regarding vessels plying in the Godavari river, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Chief Engineer's report has been examined by the Government and whether orders have been passed thereon;

(b) whether any provisional arrangement has been made to prevent danger to the passenger traffic, pending final arrangements to be made by Government;

(c) whether it is a fact that the capsizing of the boats in 1927 was due mainly to their insufficient weight and tonnage; and

(d) whether the Government would, until final orders are passed with reference to the introduction of the Steam Vessels Act, consider the desirability of provisionally imposing restrictions to the effect that vessels, steam-launches of a tonnage below 20, would not be allowed to ply on the river?

A.—(a) The report is under consideration.

(b) Instructions have been issued to the District Magistrate to the effect that pending the issue of orders on the question of the measures to be adopted for the better regulation of river traffic he should take such steps as may be necessary to prevent accidents under the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, for example, if during the monsoon season when the weather is bad, the District Magistrate considers that a steam launch

[a] Laid on the table on 26th November 1928.

or other craft plying in the river is in a state unfit to carry passengers he may issue a temporary prohibitory order under section 144 of the Code.

(c) Only one accident in 1927 came to the notice of Government and that was the capsizing of a steam launch near Gutala on 12th May 1927. The accident in this case was mainly due to a storm of exceptional severity as will be seen from the report placed on the table of this House on 27th August 1927, in reply to question No. 326 by the hon. Member. The launch was reported to have a displacement of about 25 tons.

(d) The Government are not aware of any reason that would justify the adoption of the hon. Members' suggestion.

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—"May I know if the question of applying the Inland Steam Vessels Act to the bed of the river has been dropped or is still under consideration ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I should like to have notice to give a definite answer, Sir."

Boat traffic in the Godavari river lower down the anicut.

892 Q.—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU : With reference to the answer to question No. 549 answered on 12th October 1928 regarding boat traffic on the Godavari river lower down the anicut, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the report referred to in the answer has been called for and whether it has been received ; and

(b) if so, whether the same will be placed on the Council table ?

A.—(a) A report has been received from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation which has been referred to the District Magistrate for his opinion.

(b) The report [a] is laid on the table.

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—"Since the report says there are no restrictions over the river bed, may I know whether the Government thinks of a method of exercising due control over the boats plying lower down the anicut ?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"This is not the stage for giving reasons."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—"I am only asking whether they thought of a method for exercising control over the boats."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"It is not admissible."

Irrigation

Action taken on the plans and estimates for the Boradaballi project.

* 893 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the action taken on the plans and estimates for the Boradaballi project in the Goomsur division of the Ganjam district ;

(b) the amount of the estimate ;

[a] Printed as Appendix VIII on page 533 infra.

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(c) whether it is a fact that the Irrigation Committee in its first and subsequent meetings recommended the taking up of this project at once ; and

(d) whether Government have considered the recommendation and with what result ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Chief Engineer's letter [a], dated 31st October 1928, is placed on the table.

(*c*) & (*d*) The Committee has not yet made any recommendation on the Boradaballi project.

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I know when the Government hope to have the report of the Committee, in view of the fact that the Committee was appointed long, long ago ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The Government cannot make the Committee report early, Sir."

Report on the investigation of the Kanchalamma tank project.

* 894 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the report referred to in the answer to question No. 537 answered on 12th October 1928 regarding investigation of the Kanchalamma tank project has now been received ; and

(*b*) if so, whether it will be placed on the table of the House ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Chief Engineer's report has not yet been received.

Report on the re-investigation of the Gudemupad project.

* 895 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the report mentioned in the answer to my question No. 538 answered on 12th October 1928 regarding the re-investigation of the Gudemupad project has now been received ; and

(*b*) if so, whether it will be placed on the table of the House ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Chief Engineer's report has not yet been received.

Revival of the Meenkara scheme.

* 896 Q.—Mr. MUPPIL NAYAR OF KAVALAPPARA : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is or has been any proposal of any irrigation work in the Malabar district under consideration or in contemplation ;

(*b*) whether the Government propose to consider the question of reviving the Meenkara scheme ; and

(*c*) if not, why ?

A.—(*a*) The following projects were considered and were abandoned on engineering or financial or other grounds :—

Kunduchira project.
Annakara ,,
Vandithodu ,,
Kelakancheri ,,

[a] Printed as Appendix IX on page 534 infra.

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The Malampuzha project has been postponed till the requirements of other districts more in need of irrigation have been attended to.

(b) & (c) The Government have received a report on the subject from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation. The matter is still under consideration.

Investigation of the Bandaganepalli Mekabanda project.

*897 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bandaganepalli Mekabanda project in Udayagiri taluk, Nellore district, was investigated some years back, and that estimates have been prepared during the tenure of Mr. MacLean as the District Collector;

(b) if so, why it was not given effect to, and at what stage the matter stands now;

(c) whether it is a fact that that project is intended to benefit eight or nine villages in Udayagiri taluk; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to call for detailed information as to the possibilities of the project and place it on the table of the House?

A.—A copy of the Executive Engineer's report[a] No. 1961 M., dated 13th November 1928, explaining the circumstances under which the scheme was abandoned is laid on the table.

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"In the appendix attached to this question, we find that the figures have been varying from 1,338 acres to 220 acres and from 220 acres to 76 acres. May I request the hon. the Revenue Member to cause a reinvestigation of the whole scheme?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"It has been investigated five or six times."

Irrigation schemes in Kollegal taluk.

*898 Q. Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any satisfactory progress has been made regarding the irrigation schemes in Kollegal taluk of the Coimbatore district and at what stage each of the schemes is;

(b) whether there has been a proposal to construct a bridge over the Onnalai river near Kollegal and to put sluices with a niche to take water from the river to the tanks below and, if so, in what stage that matter is;

(c) whether the Gundal river supplies water to several tanks in or near Coimbatore and whether the quantity of water in the river has been very much reduced on account of the existence of dams across the river and tributaries near the source put up by Mr. Morris, the owner of the Athikal estate; and, if so, whether the Government have considered the desirability of having those dams removed; and

(d) whether the Government have before them any proposal of immediately taking on hand one or more of the irrigation schemes in view of a long series of years of drought in that taluk?

a Printed as Appendix X on pages 534–535 infra.

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given at the meeting of the 31st July 1927 in reply to his question (No. 792) on the subject. The progress since made in the investigation of irrigation schemes in the Kollegal taluk is shown in the statement [a] attached.

(*b*) Please see item 3 in the statement.

(*c*) The Gundal river is the main source of supply to several tanks. Mr. Morris was granted permission to use water from the river on payment of Rs. 5 per annum on the condition that the water taken is returned back to the stream, excepting the small wastage in his factory. There is no reason to believe that the small storage tank, which is a mere pond made by him, affects the irrigation lower down.

(*d*) No irrigation schemes are ready for execution. Minor improvements and repairs to tanks and channels are being done where necessary.

Mr. C. V. VENKATRAMANA AYYANGAR:—"May I know when the permission was given to Mr. Morris?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"Notice, Sir."

Supply of water in the Owk tank in the Kurnool district.

*899 *Q.*—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state in terms of day's supply—

(*a*) what the quantity of water was on the 15th of August 1928 in the Owk tank in the Kurnool district;

(*b*) what it was on the 15th of September;

(*c*) what are the reasons for the shortage, if any; and

(*d*) what the rainfall was at Owk during the months July, August and September?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) A report has been called for.

Accumulation of sand and silt on the bed of the Godavari river.

*900 *Q.*—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 600 answered on 12th October 1928 regarding the accumulation of sand and silt on the bed of the Godavari river—

(*a*) whether the report called for has been received by the Government; and

(*b*) if so, whether the same will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The report called for has not yet been received.

Repairs to the aqueduct at Gorripudi in the East Godavari district.

*901 *Q.*—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the aqueduct at Gorripudi in the East Godavari district has twelve vents of which only four are functioning and the rest have been silted up for a number of years;

[a] Printed as Appendix XI on page 433 infra.

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(b) whether there has been consequent submersion and loss of crops every year in the villages above Gorripudi up to Valangi adjoining the Tulyabhaga drain;

(c) whether frequent representations about this have been made to the Engineering and Revenue departments either to repair the aqueduct or to remove the same; and

(d) whether any scheme or proposal to prevent the submersion is under investigation now and if so, in what stage it is?

A.—The Government have called for a report.

Supply of water for second crop irrigation under "closed channels" in East Godavari district.

902 Q.—Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that with reference to the second crop irrigation in the East Godavari district, it is usual to notify certain channels as closed channels for second crop irrigation and that as a result water for second crop will not be granted from such channels;

(b) whether there are some such closed channels in the East Godavari district, in the area affected by the recent rains and floods; and

(c) whether, in view of the loss and damage to the first crop by the recent rains and floods, the Government propose to instruct the Collector and the Executive Engineer to allow water for second crop for lands affected by the recent rains and floods from such channels, though already notified as closed?

A.—The Government have not the information but have called for a report.

Report of the special officer regarding the second-crop zone in Godavari Western delta.

903 Q.—Mr. D. Narayana Raju: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the special officer appointed to fix the second-crop zone in Godavari Western delta has finished his work and whether he has made any report; and, if so, whether Government will be pleased to place the report on the Council table; and

(b) whether the inclusions in, and the exclusions from, the second-crop zone as fixed by the special officer would be published in the *West Godavari District Gazette* with a view to give the ryots an opportunity to prefer objections, if any, in respect of individual fields?

A.—(a) The special officer has submitted a report, which is under the consideration of the Government. The suggestion to place the report on the table will be considered.

(b) This suggestion will also be considered.

Mr. D. Narayana Raju:—"May I know whether pending the final disposal of the report of the special officer, the lands that were hitherto receiving water for the second crop would not be refused water for the second crop irrigation?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks.—"The hon. Member's suggestion will be considered."

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Irrigation of lands under the Godavari anicut at Dowlaishwaram.

*904 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total quantity of water that flows down the anicut of the river Godavari at Dowlaishwaram during the year;

(b) what portion of the water is being used for irrigation purposes in the delta;

(c) the extent of the area that is being irrigated by that water;

(d) the quantity of water that would be required to irrigate the above area for the second crop;

(e) the area for which water was supplied for the second crop last year; and

(f) whether the Government will consider the feasibility of preserving the extra water that would be required to irrigate the whole area with second crop by constructing a reservoir somewhere up the river Godavari?

A.—(a) to (f) A report has been called for from the Chief Engineer.

Percentage of water wasted as drainage in the Kistna Eastern delta.

*905 Q.—The Zamindar of Gollapalli: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what percentage of supply in the Kistna Eastern delta is being wasted as drainage; and

(b) what are the methods adopted by the officers of the Public Works Department to scrutinize the accurate existence of the pipes and other distribution arrangements as per their records?

A.—(a) There is no record of the amount of drainage having been ever estimated.

(b) The question is not understood.

Introduction of the Irrigation Bill.

12 noon. *906 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government intend to introduce the Irrigation Bill at any time whatsoever; and

(b) if so, when; if not, why not?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given on 27th August 1927 to question No. 349, and on 8th September 1928 to question No. 286.

Mr. K. V. R. Swami:—"May I know whether the idea of introducing an Irrigation Bill has been abandoned by the Government?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"The hon. Member will find the answer in the answers referred to in the printed answer."

Mr. K. V. R. Swami:—"On a previous occasion it was given out in this House on behalf of the Government that the question of introducing a Bill on the basis of non-controversial matters will be considered by the Government. I want to know whether the Government have considered it and whether they have abandoned the idea of introducing such a Bill?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"The question of introducing a Bill dealing with non-controversial matters is under investigation."

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Land Records

Extent of wet and dry lands in Kontivada village.

*907 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the plan of the Kontivada village plan drawn in 1862 does indicate by appropriate markings the lands under wet cultivation and the lands under dry cultivation at the time of the survey in 1862;

(b) whether in 1894 a land register was prepared for Kontivada village making a detailed record of the mamul wet fields, bapat wet fields and dry fields recognized as such at that time;

(c) if the answers to (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, whether the present localization of mamul wet is in conformity with the above plan of 1862 and the land register of 1894; if not, what the reasons for the discrepancies are;

(d) what is the extent of fields, if any, which were registered as mamul wet in the land register of 1894 but are registered as bapat wet or dry in the present record of rights and what are the reasons for the divergence;

(e) what is the extent of fields, if any, which were registered as bapat wet or dry in the land register of 1894 but are registered as mamul wet in the present record of rights and what are the reasons for the divergence; and

(f) whether either the Public Works Department authorities or the Settlement Party have tried to ascertain the extent of old wet over and above the mamul wet area in Kontivada and the extent of wet land, if any, recently brought under wet cultivation; if so, what the results of their investigations are?

A.—The Government have not the information at present but are taking steps to obtain it.

Preparation of a record of rights in this Presidency.

*908 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) in what stage the proposal for the preparation of a record of rights in this Presidency is at present; and

(b) whether Government have under preparation any legislative measure to give effect to such a proposal?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 129 on 5th September 1928. The position is unchanged.

Land Revenue

Alleged deficiency of rain in Malabar.

*909 Q.—Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that many places in Malabar have seriously suffered on account of deficiency of rain this year;

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(b) whether such suffering has not become usual in Malabar for some years past; and

(c) whether the Government have done anything in the past or propose to do anything in future for irrigation in Malabar; if so, what?

A.—(a) The Government are not aware that many parts of the district have been seriously affected by deficiency of rain. They are aware that the rainfall from 1st April up to date is less than the average.

(b) No.

(c) Several projects were investigated in the past in the Malabar district and the preliminary reports on them were considered by the Government. The following schemes were abandoned either on financial or engineering considerations:—

(1) Kunduchira project.
(2) Anakkara irrigation scheme.
(3) Vandithodu irrigation scheme.
(4) Kilakancheri project.
(5) Malampuzha project.

Alleged failure of crops in Kollegal taluk.

*910 Q.—Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government or the Board of Revenue have received reports from any of the local authorities about the complete failure of rainfall in Kollegal taluk of Coimbatore district;

(b) whether it is a fact that the people of that taluk are suffering very much for want of food grains and labour;

(c) whether memorials have been sent praying for the immediate construction of some irrigation works or the Sivasamudram bridge which may give some work to the people of the taluk;

(d) whether memorials have been received that the people of the taluk may be permitted to take bamboo, rice, aloe roots and edible greens from the reserved forests adjoining the villages;

(e) whether the Government have passed any orders in the matter and, if so, to what effect; and

(f) whether, if no reports or memorials have been received by the Government, they have any objection to call for an immediate report and authorize the local authorities to take all necessary steps to alleviate the sufferings of the people in the taluk?

A.—(a) The Collector reported on 16th October 1928 that the tanks in the Kollegal taluk had not received sufficient supplies this year during the south-west monsoon period but that they were receiving supplies after the rains in the first fortnight of October.

(b) The Government are not aware that the fact is as suggested.

(c) to (e) No such memorials have been received. A contract has been executed for the construction of the Sivasamudram bridge.

(f) The Government know of no reason why the course suggested should be adopted.

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"With reference to the answer to clause (*a*) of this question, may I know whether the Government have received any further communication from the Collector regarding the sufficiency or insufficiency of the rainfall?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"No, Sir. A reference has been made to the Collector."

Levy of fines by the Tahsildar on the villagers of Santhavasal for cutting stones to repair the local Hindu temple.

911 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there is an 'ancient' Hindu temple on a hillock in Santhavasal village, Polur taluk, North Arcot district, and whether the people of Santhavasal had always worshipped in and maintained the said temple;

(*b*) whether recently when the villagers cut stones for repairing this temple the tahsildar levied fines on those who cut stones and further threatened to prosecute them;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that worshippers and trustees of Hindu temples are dealing with the properties in their charge as they want for the use and preservation of the temples; and

(*d*) whether Government will be pleased to enquire into this interference by the tahsildar?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The Government have called for a report. If the stones were quarried from Government land without permit and without payment of seigniorage, the action of the tahsildar would be correct.

Assessment of coconut topes standing in wet lands.

912 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether coconut topes standing in wet lands are charged 'wet' assessment;

(*b*) whether the owners of such coconut topes have to pay full assessment during seasons of water scarcity whereas 'wet' lands get remission in times of water scarcity;

(*c*) whether there was a wholesale drying up and loss of coconut plantations in Tiruppattur and neighbouring parts of North Arcot district during the last summer; and

(*d*) whether Government will direct the revision of Standing Orders so as to allow remission in such cases?

A.—(*a*) Yes. The assessment is on the land not on the crop.

(*b*) The rules governing remission are the same whatever the crop on the land may be.

(*c*) The Government are not aware whether the fact is as suggested.

(*d*) If the plantation was completely lost because of deficiency of water the land should be eligible for remission under the rules as they stand.

Removal of rank vegetation on irrigation channels and foot-paths.

*913 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Excise Department object to the removal of rank vegetation like date trees, etc., on irrigation channels and foot-paths of the village of Siruguppa, Bellary district;

(b) whether the Collector after personal inspection has held that the complaint of the ryots in regard to the non-removal of date trees, etc., is real and that it is dangerous for ryots to pass along these channels and foot-paths to their fields; and

(c) whether the ryots will be allowed to remove the rank vegetation themselves without any restraint and if not whether the Government themselves propose to keep the channels and paths clear of the objectionable vegetation?

A.—(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) & (c) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 750 asked by Mr. R. Nagan Gowda.

Grazing facilities for cattle in Mangalore and its suburbs.

*914 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of heads of cattle that is oxen, bulls, cows, and male and female buffaloes

(i) in the town of Mangalore;

(ii) in the suburbs, viz., in the villages of Bolur, Codialbail, Derebail, Kadri, Kankanadi, Pandav, Maroli, and Jeppinamogar;

(b) what the area of grazing land reserved at the time at the last settlement in 1901 for grazing purposes in each of the villages mentioned above was;

(c) whether that area has been curtailed; and if so, under what circumstances, and for what purposes;

(d) the area of grazing ground available for the cattle of the town and the cattle of the suburbs for each village separately, at present; and

(e) (i) whether Government or the Collector have received representations from the towns-people and the villagers round about Mangalore complaining about the smallness of area of grazing land for their cattle;

(ii) whether such representations have been received from some ryots of the village of Derebail on the same subject; and

(iii) what action has been taken?

A.—(a) The figures asked for are not readily available and would have to be compiled from the village registers.

(b) & (c) No land was classed at the settlement as reserved for grazing purposes. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the explanatory remarks on the statement printed at page 544 of the Council Proceedings for the 12th October last.

(d) 162 acres in Mangalore town. Information in regard to the suburbs is not available.

(e) The Government have not been able to trace any such representations, and they have no information that the Collector has received any.

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Legislative

Extension of the lifetime of the present Council.

915 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal pending before the Government for the extension of the life of the present Council;

(b) if so, for what period; and

(c) the reasons for the proposed extension?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The answer to clause (a) is in the negative.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Since the answer was sent to the Legislative Council office, has there been any proposal placed before the Government on this matter?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"Not that I am aware of."

Loans

Repayment of a loan given to Mr. Sindval Lingappa for sinking a well.

*916 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Sindval Lingappa obtained a loan under the Land Improvement Loans Act about fasli 1332 for sinking a well and if so, how much and when it was disbursed;

(b) the number of instalments fixed for the repayment of the loan and the amount of each instalment;

(c) the date fixed for the repayment of the first instalment of the loan;

(d) whether the well was twice built and as often fell down;

(e) whether any reports were made by any officer while the work was in progress and if so, the purport of such reports;

(f) how often default was made in payment of the instalment;

(g) the steps taken to get the instalments due;

(h) whether the borrower had to sell all his property to repay a part or whole of the Government loan, and if only a part has been repaid the amount still due to the Government from the borrower towards (1) principal, (2) interest, (3) penal interest; and

(i) the total amount paid by the borrower till now towards principal, interest and penal interest respectively?

A.—(a) *to* (i) The Government have no information regarding the details of the individual case referred to in the question.

Recovery of the loan given to Mr. Vital Rao under the Agriculturists Loans Act.

*917 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Vital Rao of Hathi Balagal, Alur taluk, Bellary district, was given a loan of Rs. 150 for the purchase of fodder under the Agriculturists Loans Act in fasli 1331, and if so, the number of cattle for which the fodder was meant to be purchased;

(b) the number of cattle the borrower has at present, and if the number is less, whether the decrease is due to the outbreak of any epidemic of cattle disease in the village;

(c) whether any sum either towards the principal or interest has been recovered from him, and if so, how much;

(d) whether any, and if so, what steps have been taken to realize the arrears due by him; and

(e) whether the balance of arrears still due by him, if any, has been ordered to be written off, and, if so, how much?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*e*) The Government have no information regarding the details asked for in this individual case. A report has been called for

Levy of penal interest on takkavi loans in South Arcot district.

* 918 *Q.*—Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cases in 1925-26, 1926-27 and 1927-28 in the district of South Arcot where penal interest was levied under the Takkavi Loans Act for arrears of takkavi instalments that were due;

(b) what was the amount of arrears due in each of such cases and what was the amount of penal interest levied in each of such cases; and

(c) whether extensions for payment were applied for, and, if so, the amount covered by them and the amounts in respect of which extensions were actually granted in the said period of three years?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government have not the information; nor is there any report or return from which it could be compiled. It would have to be specially gathered from the individual accounts in the Collectorate.

Mines

Revenue from the quarry near Namakkal village, Alur taluk.

* 919 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a quarry for stones at or near Namakkal village in Alur taluk of Bellary district;

(b) the procedure that has to be followed by people who may require to get stones from that quarry; and

(c) the revenue derived by the Government from the quarry in each of the last three years?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have no information but have called for a report.

Minor Irrigation

Estates transferred from Schedule A to B under the Irrigation Cess Act after 1920.

*920 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any estate or estates have, after 1920, been transferred from Schedule A to Schedule B appended to the rules under section 1-A of the Madras Irrigation Cess Act, 1865; and

(b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, what those estates are and what are the circumstances and reasons which necessitated such transference?

A.—(a) & (b) Nidadavole, Rasalapudi, Morta and Velivennu villages in the Bhadrachalam share of the Nidadavole estate were transferred in 1922 from Schedule A to Schedule B. The mamul wet areas in these villages had not been localized when the schedules were prepared to the rules which were issued in 1914. The transfer was ordered after the localization had been made.

Deduction allowed for baling water in the delta taluks.

*921 Q.—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of deduction allowed for baling water in the delta taluks and in the upland irrigation and lanka cultivation in the Godavari and Kistna deltas;

(b) on what basis the said rate is based; and

(c) whether deduction represents the whole or any fraction of actual expenses incurred by the cultivator for that purpose?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Rule I (8) printed on pages 3, 7 and 10 of Board's Standing Order, Volume II.

(b) & (c) The deduction is a concession based on long usage. Whatever may have been the case in the early days of revenue settlements it has nowadays no fixed relation to the cost of raising water.

Contribution by ryots for repairs to minor irrigation works.

*922 Q.—The ZAMINDAR OF SINGAMPATTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the prevailing practice in the Tinnevelly district is for the Government not to undertake repairs of minor irrigation tanks without contribution from the ryots benefited by such works; and

(b) whether such practice is prevailing in other districts in the Presidency; and, if so, in which of them?

A.—(a) The contributions from ryots in the Tinnevelly district in the three years 1925–26, 1926–27 and 1927–28 amounted to Rs. 4,460, Rs. 1,965 and Rs. 3,094 respectively. The expenditure on minor irrigation works in these three years was Rs. 64,385, Rs. 1,05,777 and Rs. 72,340 respectively. The answer to the question is therefore in the negative.

(b) The figures for other districts also indicate a negative answer.

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Mr. DANIEL THOMAS :—" May I know from the hon. the Revenue Member whether repairs to a number of minor irrigation works have been held up in the district of Tinnevelly because the ryots are not in a position to get contributions ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" No, Sir, I am not aware of it. If the hon. Member will give me a list I shall be glad to make enquiries."

Panchayat Forests

Rules for the conduct of forest panchayats.

* 923 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Revenue Board have framed any set of rules for the conduct of forest panchayats and their relationship with the people and with the Forest department ; and

(b) if so, what those rules are ?

A.—(a) & (b) As stated in the answer to question No. 1662 on 2nd March 1928, the Board of Revenue was requested to submit draft rules and has submitted to Government a draft standing order for the administration of forest panchayats. The draft is under the consideration of Government.

Removal of some of the members of the Erragondapalem Forest Panchayat.

* 924 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the President, Mr. A. Venkatanarasimham Pantulu, and some other members of the Erragondapalem Forest Panchayat were removed from office on the reports of the Forest Panchayat Deputy Tahsildar and inspection reports based thereupon ;

(b) whether the deputy tahsildar communicated in Telugu the whole of the remarks of the Forest Panchayat Officer contained in P.F. No. 3008/27/C including the portions that spoke of the removal of the alleged inefficient president and members ;

(c) whether the president in his explanation to charges communicated to him later categorically denied all the statements made by the deputy tahsildar ; and

(d) whether, before removing the president or members, any inquiry was held either by the Forest officer or by the Collector to ascertain the truth or otherwise of statements made by the deputy tahsildar against the president and panchayatdars ?

A.—(a), (b), (c) & (d) The Government have not the information but have called for a report.

Public Service

Government Orders regarding unpassed men in public service.

* 925-A Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what were the reasons that prompted the issue of the several Government Orders and notifications on the question of unpassed men in the public service ;

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(b) whether the Government will place a copy of all the Government Orders and notifications regarding unpassed men with a statement of the reasons therefor on the table of the House;

(c) whether they are aware that the community most affected by the several Government Orders and notifications is that of the Muslims; and

(d) whether the Government took this aspect into consideration before they issued the said Government Orders and notifications?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 736.

(b) If the hon. Member will specify the particular orders he has in mind the Government will consider the question of putting them on the table of the House.

(c) & (d) The answer to clause (c) is in the negative.

Alleged memorials from unpassed men in Government service.

* 925-B Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have been receiving memorials and appeals from unpassed men aggrieved by the several Government Orders and notifications and how many such appeals have been submitted by the Muslims in the service, ever since the issue of those Government Orders;

(b) what is the total number of such unpassed men in service affected by the said Government Orders from among the Muslim community in the various departments in the Presidency; and

(c) how many of these unpassed Muslim servants were given general and permanent exemptions by the Government before the issue of the Government Orders in question and how many were exempted by the heads of departments after the issue of the said Government Orders?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The hon. Member does not specify the Government Orders he has in mind. The Government have received memorials and appeals from unpassed men. To collect the information required by the hon. Member would involve the examination of files stretching over several years. The Government do not consider it necessary to embark on a labour of such magnitude.

Representation from the Andhra University regarding the amendment of the Public Service Notification.

* 926 Q.—Mr G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state, with reference to the answers given to question No. 357 answered on 8th October 1928, regarding representation from the Andhra University, regarding the amendment of the Public Service notification—

(a) whether any representation has since been made by the Andhra University on this question;

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(*b*) whether the Government have perused the report of the meeting of the Senate of the Andhra University held on the 28th of September last whereat the Vice-Chancellor reported to the Senate that the matter was in correspondence with the Government who had been addressed to reconsider their decision and remove what appears to the Syndicate to be quite an unnecessary restriction; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the ne her?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The Government have not received the report referred to.

(*c*) The Government do not propose to take any action.

Mr. P. C. Venkatapathi Raju :—" With reference to clause (*c*) of the answer to this question, may I ask the hon. Minister whether he is not going to take any action?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—" I am afraid it is for me to answer the question, Sir. The report referred to has not been received and that is why we do not propose to take any action."

Mr. P. C. Venkatapathi Raju :—" May I ask whether the Government cannot take action on their own initiative?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—" No. We do not propose to take any action on our own initiative."

Survey

Abolition of some survey parties.

*927 *Q.*—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that some parties in the Survey department were abolished in 1927–28;

(*b*) how many 'parties' were so abolished;

(*c*) how many temporary hands and how many permanent hands were dispensed with owing to such abolition;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that in abolishing a party only the temporary surveyors were dispensed with and the permanent hands retained;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that the higher officers have as a consequence left to them such field work as is done by surveyors; and

(*f*) how many higher officers and field-surveyors are proposed to be abolished during the year 1928–29?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) One party was abolished with effect from 1st October 1927.

(*c*) & (*d*) No men holding permanent appointments were dispensed with. The temporary establishment normally required for one party including temporary surveyors was dispensed with. That establishment consists of 4 Sub-Assistants, 6 Head Surveyors, 45 Deputy Surveyors, 150 Field Surveyors, 80 Computor-draughtsmen, 30 clerks, 35 peons. The Government

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have no information as to the actual number of men discharged as all the posts may not have been filled and as some of the men may have been provided for in the other parties.

(e) No.

(f) There is no proposal to abolish any posts in 1928-29.

Settlement

Starting of resettlement work in South Kanara.

* 928-A Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) when resettlement work was started in South Kanara and how long it is expected to proceed ; and

(b) what the total estimated cost of the work is ?

A.—(a) Resettlement work, so far as the revision of the registration is concerned, was started in 1925-26 and is in progress. It is not possible to say now when that work will be completed. Revision of the rates of assessment is due in some taluks in 1932-33, and in others in 1933-34 and in 1934-35.

(b) No estimate has been made.

Progress of resettlement work in South Kanara.

* 928-B Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased—

(a) to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of the progress of resettlement work actually done in South Kanara containing such points as villages examined, statistics obtained, etc. ;

(b) to state whether the Government will consider the desirability of informing the public and Members of the Legislative Council representing the district of the enquiry in its various important stages ; and

(c) to state whether the Government will give an opportunity to the public and the Members of the Council representing the district to be present at the enquiry and lead and test evidence, where necessary, in order to help the Settlement officer to arrive at just conclusions ?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 12 of the reports on the operations connected with survey, settlement and maintenance of revenue records and registration for the years 1926-27 and 1927-28 which have been placed on the Editors' Table. The Government have no further information on the subject.

(b) & (c) The orders of Government require the Special Settlement officer to give public notice of his presence in the tract to be resettled. Any one wishing to make any representation in connexion with the resettlement may do so to the Special Settlement officer.

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" With reference to clause (a), may I ask the hon. Member for Revenue whether it is not a fact that these reports do not give any details at all of the work actually going on ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" That is all the details we have, Sir."

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Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" If that is the case, may I know how the public is to know what sort of enquiry the Settlement officer is making, in what place and so on ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" He is expected to give the public due notice."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" Is it not a fact that simply a notice is given with no particulars as to where and when the settlement work is going on ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" If the hon. Member will bring to the notice of the Settlement officer that due notice has not been given, I am sure he will see that the desired notice is given."

Action taken on objections to proposals not relating to rates in the scheme report for the resettlement of Kistna and Godavari districts.

* 929-A Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what objections, if any, Government have received in respect of the proposals not relating to rates contained in the scheme report for the re-settlement of the Kistna and West and East Godavari districts ;

(b) whether the said objections have been dealt with by (i) the Special Settlement officer, (ii) Board of Revenue and (iii) Local Government ; and, if so, what opinion they have respectively expressed thereon ; and

(c) whether Government propose to give an opportunity to the Legislative Council to express its opinion thereon before finally disposing of the said objections ?

A.—(a) Objections have been received in respect of the following proposals :—

(i) that the lands north of the Ellore and Samalkota canals in the West and East Godavari districts now classified as upland dry, but regularly irrigated from the delta system, should be reclassified in accordance with the principles adopted in the delta for similar land ;

(ii) that the unsurveyed and unsettled lands within the margin of the Colair lake and waste blocks likely to be taken on patta should be classified and assessed suitably ;

(iii) that the classification of the irrigation sources in the Kaikalur taluk of the Kistna district should be overhauled and that the sources whose ayacuts are liable to regular failure of supply and submersion owing to defects of irrigation and drainage should be reduced from the second and third class to the third and fourth class ;

(iv) that lands under the Divi Pumping system should be reclassified on the basis of the rates for dry lands in the Kistna delta ;

(v) that lands on which objectionable achukattu cultivation is carried on should be liable to pay enhanced assessment as in other districts.

Representation has also been made that the lanka and padugai lands should be reclassified.

(b) The remarks of the Special Settlement officer and the Board of Revenue have been received and they are under the consideration of the Government.

(c) The Settlement officer's report was published in the District Gazettes as long ago as December 1927 in order that persons interested, including members of this House, might make their representations on his proposals. It has been and still is open to any member to table a resolution on any point he desires. The Government do not however consider that they would be justified in making special arrangements to take up the time of the House on these comparatively minor matters.

Increase in the staff of the Settlement office in West Godavari district.

* 929-B Q.—Mr. D. Narayana Raju: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) with reference to resettlement work in West Godavari district, whether it is a fact that the staff in the Settlement office is limited in number;

(b) what is the time which the present staff will take to check the work turned out by the karnams; and

(c) whether Government have considered the advisability of increasing the staff in the Settlement office in proportion to the number of villages in the taluk, or in the alternative, to summon the karnams one after another so as to avoid their unnecessary stay at headquarters?

A.—(a) & (c) The hon. Member's suggestions will be communicated to the Settlement officer.

(b) The Government have not the information.

Chain survey and field measurement work in the delta villages in Ellore taluk.

* 929-C Q.—Mr. D. Narayana Raju: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that chain survey and field measurement work have been commenced in the delta villages, Ellore taluk, on or about 1st November 1928;

(b) whether Government are aware that the paddy crop on the fields is nearly ripe for harvesting and that on account of the recent cyclonic weather it is lying flat on the ground rendering even the field bunds unpassable;

(c) whether Government are aware that chain survey work in the paddy fields in the present condition would do immense damage to the crop; and

(d) what steps, if any, Government have taken to postpone the said field measurement work till after the harvesting is over?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) A representation to this effect has been received from the ryots of Ellore taluk, West Godavari district.

(c) No. Damage need not necessarily be caused to the crop unless chains are carelessly dragged through it.

(d) The Director of Survey has issued instructions to reduce the staff as far as practicable till the harvest is over and to see that precautions are taken not to damage the crop when measurements across the field are inevitable.

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Resettlement operations in Kistna and Godavari districts.

• 929-D Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any fixed programme to regulate the work of the Settlement Party No. I, now carrying on resettlement operations in the Kistna and West and East Godavari districts;

(*b*) what work the party is now doing in these districts; and

(*c*) whether Government have considered the advisability of staying the resettlement operations in these districts till the objections to the proposals regarding the scheme report for the resettlement of these districts have been duly considered and disposed of by them?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Yes. The main items of work expected to be done during the latter half of the current year are as follows:—

REVENUE SETTLEMENT PARTY NO. I

(EAST AND WEST GODAVARI DISTRICTS).

Latter half of 1928–29.

(*a*) Revision of ayacuts in the delta taluks of the East Godavari district consequent on the orders of Government regarding bapat wet lands and of lands proposed for inclusion in the Godavari Eastern and Central deltas.

(*b*) Preparation and issue of supplemental subdivision lists to the Survey department consequent on the miscellaneous accounts inspection in Razole taluk.

(*c*) Inspection for purposes of delimitation of lands vested in local boards in the taluks of Narasapur, Tanuku and Bhimavaram and in the remaining villages of Razole and Amalapur taluks and the preparation and issue of supplemental subdivision lists for survey.

(*d*) Issue of fair registers based on resurvey in the remaining villages of Amalapur and Ramachandrapur taluks.

(*e*) Preparation and issue of fair accounts based on revision survey in the taluks of Rajahmundry, Cocanada, Chodavaram, Chintalapudi and Ellore upland villages up to 30th September 1928 and the preparation of fair adangals with columns for 'rate' and 'assessment' left blank in the remaining villages of those taluks.

(*f*) Field inspection, the preparation and issue of rough pattas and the preparation of fair adangals with columns for 'rate' and 'assessment' left blank in the Peddapur taluk and Yellavaram and Polavaram divisions.

(*g*) Preparation of resettlement registers in the taluks of Razole, Amalapur, Ramachandrapur, Narasapur, Tanuku and Bhimavaram.

(h) Inspection and preparation of registers in the non-Government villages of Amalapur, Ramachandrapur, Cocanada, Razole, Rajahmundry and the Polavaram, Yellavaram and Chodavaram divisions.

(i) Final check of the revision survey records in the taluks of Nidadavole and Tadepalligudem and the delta villages of the Ellore taluk for which records may be received during the current year and the preparation of fair resettlement accounts in the taluks of Nidadavole and Tadepalligudem.

REVENUE SETTLEMENT PARTY No. II
(KISTNA DISTRICT).

Latter half of 1928–29.

(a) Preparation and issue of rough pattas for the 17 Colair affected villages of Kaikalur taluk and 97 villages of Nandigama taluk.

(b) Preparation and issue of fair registers in respect of nine villages of Kaikalur taluk and 16 of Bezwada taluk.

(c) Opening of a Branch Settlement office in Gannavaram taluk by about 1st January 1929.

(d) Preparation and issue of revised A, B and C registers in respect of the remaining non-Government villages in Gudivada and Kaikalur taluks and of a portion of Bezwada taluk.

(e) Attending to the preliminary stages of introduction work.

(c) The Government see no reason to adopt the course suggested by the hon. Member. The work would have to be done whatever the rates of assessment might be.

Village Establishments

Travelling allowance to karnams in Nidadavole taluk summoned to the headquarters in connexion with resettlement work.

* 930 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the village karnams in Nidadavole taluk, West Godavari district, are being summoned to the headquarters in connexion with resettlement work;

(b) whether it is a fact that their stay at headquarters is for not less than a fortnight at a time;

(c) whether they are asked to maintain diaries, attendance registers, etc., as in the case of whole-time servants;

(d) if the answer to (c) be in the affirmative, why they are not treated as whole-time servants for the purpose of drawing travelling and daily allowances;

(e) whether it is a fact that the karnams are paid daily allowance of only four annas for a day's work and no travelling allowance;

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(*f*) whether it is a fact that by taking into account for purposes of daily allowance the work turned out by the karnams irrespective of their actual stay at the headquarters they are generally given daily allowance for only half the number of days of their halt; and

(*g*) whether Government will be pleased to pay karnams attending to settlement work at headquarters a daily allowance of at least one rupee a day and proper travelling batta?

A.—(*a*) As attendance at Settlement offices forms part of the ordinary duties of karnams, the case is doubtless as suggested in the question.

(*b*) The Government are not aware that this is so.

(*c*) & (*d*) The Government are not aware whether the karnams are required to maintain diaries, attendance registers, etc., but even if they were so controlled during the period of their work in the Settlement office that circumstances would not be any reason for constituting them whole-time servants.

(*e*) Karnams employed in Settlement offices are paid a daily batta of four annas a day and a lump sum remuneration of Rs. 10 when the fair accounts of their villages are satisfactorily and finally completed. No travelling allowance is paid to them as attendance at Settlement offices forms part of their ordinary duties.

(*f*) The Government are not aware that the fact is as suggested.

(*g*) The Government are not convinced that it is necessary to grant travelling allowance or increased daily allowance as suggested.

Water-rate

Collection of water cess from the ryots of Kontivada village.

931 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Board of Revenue in their order No. 1269, dated 14th May 1879, authorized the proprietor of Kontivada to collect water cess from the ryots;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) be in the affirmative, what extent of land was under irrigation in 1879 over and above the mamul wet area with regard to which the proprietor was authorized to collect water charge from the ryots;

(*c*) whether the proprietor has been collecting wet rentals from the ryots since 1879;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the total rental of Kontivada village was only Rs. 4,928–1–2 before the year 1879 and that, after 1879, it has been increased to Rs. 7,261–7–6;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that the proprietor has issued wet pattas to the ryots with the stipulation that they should have to pay water charge to Government only for second crop irrigation; and

(*f*) if the answer to (*e*) be in the affirmative, whether the Government are aware that the proprietor is willing to make, in respect of lands covered by the said wet pattas, a reduction of rent equal to the water charge which Government may collect from the ryots as a result of the proposed transfer?

A.—A report has been called for.

[For further list of starred questions please see page 467 infra.]

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UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Agriculture

Number of Agricultural subdivisions and demonstrators in the province.

932 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Agricultural divisions into which the province is divided;

(*b*) the districts which are comprised in each such division;

(*c*) the number of Agricultural experiment stations in each division and the places where they are located; and

(*d*) the number of Agricultural demonstrators and the headquarters of each?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The information is furnished in the statement[a] appended.

Fisheries

Income from pearl fisheries.

933 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) why the gross income from pearl fisheries has not increased appreciably during the last 35 years the income being in 1889–90 Rs. 2,15,045 and in 1925–26 Rs. 2,25,498; and

(*b*) whether the Government have taken any steps to increase the income from this branch and if so, what they are?

A.—(*a*) The gross income from pearl fisheries has increased appreciably as will be seen from the following statement:—

Year.	Months in which pearl fishery was held.		Gross receipts.
		RS.	RS.
1889	March		1,89,984
1890	Do.		25,061
1926	February—March	2,25,498	
	November—December.	31,387	
			2,56,885
1927	February—April	2,54,497	
	November 1927 to January 1928	1,95,039	
			4,49,536
1928	March—April		2,02,575

(*b*) Research work has been recently initiated at the Krusadai Island station to investigate the causes for the irregular periodicity of pearl fisheries and the remedies for counteracting the influences relating to such irregular occurrences.

[a] Printed as Appendix XII on pages 537—540 infra.

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Industries

Improvement of the aloe fibre industry in this province.

934 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have investigated the scope in this province for extension of the aloe fibre industry;

(b) what is the extent to which the industry exists now; and

(c) whether the Government will consider the desirability of undertaking the improvement of this industry by starting a mill themselves?

A.—(a) No special investigation has been made into the possibilities of the aloe fibre industry.

(b) There have been several attempts to establish the industry in South India, chiefly in the Travancore High Range, near Pallavaram, in the Shevaroys, Coorg, Mysore State and the Anantapur district, but the only localities where the industry appears to be carried on now with any degree of success are Sige Hosur in Coorg and Palsamudram in the Anantapur district.

(c) It is not considered that there is a case for Government starting a mill as there are already one or two factories in South India conducting operations.

Opening of an industrial school at Calicut.

935 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether any decision has been reached with regard to the opening of an industrial school at Calicut; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay.

A.—(a) & (b) Owing to want of funds in the current year, it is proposed to consider the scheme in connexion with the budget of 1929–30.

Experiments in crop cutting in the Presidency.

936 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether any experiments in crop cutting are being conducted in this Presidency;

(b) if not, why;

(c) for how long the subject has been before the Government; and

(d) what the probable cost of the experiments will be?

A.—(a) & (b) No such experiments were conducted in this Presidency for the past six years as the utility of these experiments is doubtful.

(c) Since 1922.

(d) The Government have no information.

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Medical

Extensions to the headquarters hospital at Palamcottah.

937 Q.—Mr. DANIEL THOMAS: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the site for the new headquarters hospital at Palamcottah has been selected and finally settled;

(*b*) when the building of the new hospital will be commenced;

(*c*) whether private houses and lands adjoining the present hospital premises were acquired for the purpose of hospital extension several years ago;

(*d*) why the new hospital was not built at the site of the present premises;

(*e*) whether the present in-patient accommodation in the hospital is adequate and satisfactory; and

(*f*) whether the Government will be pleased to expedite the construction of a new hospital?

A.—(*a*) The Government have provisionally decided that a new hospital should be constructed in the neighbourhood of the existing hospital for women and children, but the exact site has not yet been selected.

(*b*) It is not possible to give a precise answer to this question. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clause (*g*) of his question No. 1318 on the 23rd January 1928.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The Government decided to abandon the site of the present hospital in view of the difficulty of obtaining a good water-supply.

(*e*) The accommodation is adequate as will be seen from the following figures:—

Year.	Number of beds.	Daily average attendance.
1925	68	38
1926	68	45
1927	68	49

The Government have recognized that the buildings are unsuitable.

(*f*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clause (*b*) above.

Special course of training in venereal clinics to medical practitioners.

938 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether the Government have in view any scheme for giving special course of training in venereal clinics to medical practitioners of this Province, and, if not, why not?

A.—The Government have recently sanctioned the appointment of a specialist in venereal diseases for this Presidency. One of the duties of this specialist is to train members of the various hospital staffs in the practical methods of diagnosis and treatment and to give similar training to medical men and women from rural areas and provincial towns who may be selected for the purpose. Details can be worked out only after the officer selected for the post has taken charge.

Remodelling of the General Hospital.

939 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the estimates and plans for the remodelling of the General Hospital, Madras, are ready;

(*b*) what the various items of improvements are;

(*c*) whether any sites have been acquired;

(*d*) if so, at what cost;

(*e*) whether the construction of the buildings has commenced; and

(*f*) what expenditure has already been incurred thereon?

A.—(*a*) Rough plans and approximate estimates were sanctioned in 1927. Detailed plans and estimates have been sanctioned for the following works:—

Temporary sheds.
Out-patient department.
Venereal diseases block.
X-ray institute.
Additions and alterations to electric installation, and other minor items.

(*b*) The several items of improvements are—

(1) Out-patient department.
(2) Venereal block.
(3) X-ray institute.
(4) Nurses dining and recreation block [since included under item (5) below].
(5) Surgical wards and operation block with rooms for nurses at top.
(6) Remodelling the existing main building, etc.
(7) Temporary sheds.
(8) Dairy.
(9) Sanitary works, etc.
(9) (*a*) Laundry.
(10) Hospital equipment.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) The question does not arise.

(*e*) Yes.

(*f*) An expenditure of Rs. 67,520 has been incurred on the buildings up to the end of October 1928.

Education

Scholarships to depressed class boys in Ceded Districts High School.

940 Q.—Mr. M. V. GANGADHARA SIVA: Will the hon the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many depressed class boys have been granted scholarships in the Ceded District High Schools for the year 1928–29; and

(*b*) how many in each district?

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A.—(a) & (b) The particulars required are given in the subjoined statement:—

District.		Number of scholarships awarded to depressed class boys.	Remarks.
Cuddapah	...	5	Includes two scholarships awarded to Christian pupils of Adi-Andhra origin.
Kurnool ...	...	1	
Bellary ...	...	2	
Anantapur	...	6	Includes one scholarship awarded to a Christian pupil of Adi-Andhra origin.
		14	

Number of municipal elementary schools in this Province.

941 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of municipalities in the Presidency;

(b) the number of elementary schools required in each for providing facilities for each boy of school-going age;

(c) the number available in each;

(d) whether any elementary tax is being collected in such municipalities; and

(e) in which of them elementary education has been made compulsory?

A.—(a) The total number of municipalities is 82, including the Corporation of Madras and the recently formed Karaikudi Municipality.

(b) & (c) The Government have not got the information.

(d) & (e) Lists [a] showing the municipalities in which education-tax is being levied and those in which compulsory elementary education has been introduced are laid on the table.

Transfer of educational inspectors to the control of local bodies.

942 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what are the reasons for not placing the educational inspecting staff under the control of the local bodies; and

(b) whether the Government will allow the local bodies to appoint their own inspecting staff?

[a] Printed as Appendix XIII on page 541 infra.

their .

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A.—(*a*) The educational inspecting staff has to inspect schools under various kinds of management, viz., Government, local bodies and private agencies, and has to submit reports about the working of these schools. The local bodies have at present no control over schools other than their own and any inspecting officers employed under them cannot be expected to exercise supervision over the schools under other managements.

(*b*) The Government are permitting the employment in individual cases of supervisors of elementary schools under local bodies. Employment of these supervisors is generally allowed in cases of municipalities which have introduced compulsory education and in other cases if the local bodies applying for permission to employ the supervisors have provided schools in all school-less centres with a population of 500 and over and have adequately staffed and equipped the elementary schools under their management.

Local Boards

Inclusion of 'Vaisyas' as a minority community for nominations to local bodies.

943 *Q.*—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether Vaisyas have been included in the minority communities and whether the authorities concerned have been advised to recommend members of the Vaisya community in proposing persons for nomination to local bodies?

A.—(*a*) No classification of minority communities has been attempted by Government.

(*b*) No such advice has been tendered.

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Proposed amalgamation of the Vellore and Cheyyar Devasthanam Committees.

944 *Q.*—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to amalgamate the Vellore and Cheyyar Devasthanam Committees as a single committee for the district;

(*b*) if so, what is the number of members proposed to be allotted to each taluk;

(*c*) the names of temples in the North Arcot district with annual incomes of over Rs. 3,000 each;

(*d*) whether he contemplates selection of members from areas where these big temples are located; and

(*e*) whether in making appointments to the membership of temple committees people who have made rich endowments to temples are preferred, provided they have the other requisite qualifications?

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A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*d*) A single committee has been constituted for the North Arcot district with a strength of twelve members in the place of the two committees formed in 1927. The hon. Member's attention is invited to notification Nos. 1209 and 1217 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 21st August 1928 and No. 1378, dated 18th September 1928.

(*c*) The Government have no information.

(*e*) The factor mentioned in the clause is taken into account in making appointments.

Civil Justice

Alleged memorial regarding the establishment of a District Munsif's Court at Cheyyar.

945 Q.—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received a copy of the mahazar sent by the people of Cheyyar taluk, North Arcot district, praying for the establishment of a District Munsif's Court at Cheyyar and whether they recommended to the High Court the establishment of a court at Cheyyar;

(*b*) whether they will be pleased to call from the High Court for particulars about the need for the establishment of a District Munsif's Court there;

(*c*) whether the matter was already once considered by the Government and the establishment of a civil court at Cheyyar was actually recommended by them; and

(*d*) if so, whether Government will be pleased to lay these papers on the table of this House?

A.—(*a*) Yes; but the Government have not made any recommendation to the High Court.

(*b*) The Government do not propose to call for any particulars. Under the Madras Civil Courts Act, the High Court is the authority that determines the location of District Munsifs' courts.

(*c*) The answer is in the negative.

(*d*) Does not arise.

Abolition of the Pleadership examination.

946 Q.—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) when was the notification abolishing the Pleadership examination published;

(*b*) what is the number of candidates who failed in the last Pleadership examination;

(*c*) whether these candidates memorialized the President, Board of Pleadership examination, praying for the holding of one or two more examinations solely for the benefit of such "candidates"; and

(*d*) what relief Government propose to give to such cases?

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A.—(*a*) The hon. Member is referred to the notification published by the High Court at pages 1493—1495 of Part II of the *Fort St. George Gazette* dated the 25th October 1927.

(*b*) Out of 250 candidates who presented themselves for the examination, 107 failed in it.

(*c*) The Government have no information. A memorial was, however, received by Government from two of the candidates who failed in September 1928, and they were told they should address the High Court in the matter.

(*d*) The Government do not propose to take any action in the matter.

Increasing the pay of the process-servers.

947 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have arrived at any decision with reference to the question of increasing the pay of the process-servers; and

(*b*) if so, what that decision is?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 220.

Forests

Alleged circulars regarding levy of fines in abkari and forest offences.

948 Q.—Mr. Daniel Thomas: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether circulars have been issued by District Magistrates to subordinate magistrates with reference to abkari and forest offences directing that the fines levied should be double and in any case should not be less than the compensation amounts fixed by Abkari and Forest officers;

(*b*) whether such circulars are now in force in the Tinnevelly district; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to take steps to have such circulars cancelled?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information but have called for a report.

(*c*) Does not arise.

Irrigation

Emigration from this Presidency from 1920—1926.

949 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of men, women and children who emigrated from this Province to other countries in each of the years from 1920 to 1926; and

(*b*) the countries to which they have emigrated and their number in each of the above years?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the annual Emigration and Immigration reports from 1920 to 1926 which have been placed on the Editors' table.

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Police

Selection of depressed class candidates as Sub-Inspectors of Police.

950 Q.—Mr. M. V. GANGADHARA SIVA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many posts of Sub-Inspectors of Police fell vacant this year in each district in the Presidency ;

(b) how many depressed class candidates appeared for the Sub-Inspector selection in each district in the Presidency ; and

(c) how many of them were selected in each district in the Presidency ?

A.—(a) Recruitment is not made against district vacancies alone but against the Presidency vacancies as a whole. Ninety posts fell vacant this year.

(b) Six candidates belonging to the depressed classes applied from the following districts :—

North Arcot	3
Chingleput	1
Coimbatore	1
Madras City	1

(c) Two candidates were selected—one from the North Arcot district and the other from the Coimbatore district.

Assignment of Land

Grant of darkhast lands to ex-military men.

951 Q.—Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state, with reference to the answer to question No. 524, dated 11th October 1928,—

(a) whether the following ex-military men are entitled to the grant of lands on darkhast :—

(i) ex-army sepoys who have served and have been discharged from the Army before the Great War ;

(ii) ex-army men who have served and have been discharged from the Army after the Armistice ;

(iii) sepoys who are still serving in the Army ;

(iv) non-combatants who have enlisted in the Army during the Great War, who have served overseas and are in possession of war medals ; and

(b) if so, what are the rules governing the grant and whether they are entitled to any preferential treatment over non-military people while considering applications for such grants ?

A.—(a) & (b) Officers and men of the Indian Army who actually served as combatants in the Great War are given preference in regard to applications for a grant of land on darkhast in the villages in which they reside unless they have already been assigned in those villages land amounting to 5 acres of wet or its equivalent at 2 acres of dry to one of wet after 14th April 1921. This preference is over all other applicants for the land except the following :—

(1) a person who has occupied the land under sivayi-jama and has expended a material amount of labour or money in clearing the land of weeds, scrub or prickly-pear or otherwise fitting it for cultivation or improving it.

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(2) A person who holds the trees on the land under the tree-tax system or who has been using the water of a well in the land for cultivation.

Preference is not now given to any non-combatant or to any combatant who did not serve in the Great War.

Irrigation

Improvement and extension of the Vamsadhara project.

952 Q.—Mr. V. Kameswara Rao Nayudu: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Ganjam Irrigation Committee have made any definite proposals with respect to the improvement or extension of the Vamsadhara project;

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place the report and connected papers on the table of the House;

(*c*) whether the Government are aware that the river Vamsadhara has been corroding the bund of the river at Kalingapatam; and

(*d*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to enquire into it and take steps to protect the town from the same?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Ganjam Irrigation Committee have not yet made any recommendation in regard to the Vamsadhara project.

(*c*) & (*d*) Yes. The Government have sanctioned an estimate of Rs. 3,740 for the construction of pile groynes in the river to stop the erosion which is endangering Government buildings on the right bank of the river.

Tanks in East Godavari irrigating 500 and more acres.

953 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any tanks in East Godavari which irrigate 500 acres and more;

(*b*) if so, which they are, and what the capacity of each is; and

(*c*) if the Government have no information, whether they will call for the same?

A.—(*a*) to (*c*) A list of tanks[*] irrigating 500 acres and more in the East Godavari district is appended.

Information regarding the capacities of the tanks has been called for from the Superintending Engineer.

Number of tanks in this province irrigating 500 acres and more.

954 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of tanks which irrigate 500 acres and more in this province; and

(*b*) the number of such tanks in each of the districts?

[*] Printed as Appendix XIV on page 541 infra.

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A.—(*a*) There are 428 tanks irrigating 500 acres and more in this Province.

(*b*) A statement [a] showing the number of such tanks in each district is appended.

Irrigation of lands in Thirumalai village.

955 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any lands belonging to Thirumalai village in Peddapur taluk, East Godavari, are irrigated from the water of the Thimmaraju tank;

(*b*) if not, whether any lands are being irrigated without the required permission;

(*c*) what the extent of such lands is in each of the last ten years;

(*d*) whether this village can be included in the ayacut of the tank; and

(*e*) if not, why?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*e*) The information has been called for.

Further enquiry regarding the Maluvambat tank in Tiruvannamalai taluk, North Arcot district.

956 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether, owing to the conflicting opinions expressed by two Superintending Engineers regarding the Maluvambat tank in Tiruvannamalai taluk, North Arcot district, any further enquiry has been made, and, if so what final orders have been passed on the same;

(*b*) if no such enquiry has been made, whether Government will be pleased to call for a report from a fresh officer such as the head of the department;

(*c*) what is the extent of area and the number of people that are to be benefited by this scheme; and

(*d*) what is the present economic condition of the people that are to be benefited by this scheme?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The Government have no information about the Maluvambattu scheme beyond what is contained in the report placed on the table in reply to the hon. Member's question No. 983, dated 31st October 1927, namely, that this scheme had been dropped. They are unaware of any reports of the Superintending Engineer conflicting or otherwise.

Supply of water to the Kaveripauk tank.

957 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 211 answered on 6th September 1928 regarding supply of water to Kaveripauk tank—

(*a*) whether the report called for has been received and if so, whether Government will be pleased to lay the same on the table of this House; and

(*b*) whether any conclusion has been arrived at by Government on the matter after the receipt of the report?

[a] Printed as Appendix XV on page 542 infra.

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A.—(*a*) The report[a] has been received and is placed on the table.

(*b*) The question of insufficient supply to the Kaveripauk tank is merged in the general question of scanty supplies in the Palar, which, as already stated in answer to clause (*g*) of question No. 211, has been receiving the attention of the Government for some time past. No conclusion has been arrived at.

Agency

Introduction of Central Distillery system in G. Udayagiri taluk, Ganjam Agency.

958 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government intend to introduce the Central Distillery system in G. Udayagiri taluk, Ganjam Agency;

(*b*) whether the Commissioner of Excise recommended any such scheme to Government;

(*c*) whether the local missionaries waited on a deputation on the Agent to the Governor and protested against the introduction of any such scheme;

(*d*) whether these missionaries presented any written representation to the Agent to the Governor at any time during last year; and

(*e*) if so, whether Government would place it on the Council table?

A.—(*a*) No such proposal is at present under the consideration of the Government.

(*b*) & (*c*) In accordance with the recommendation of a conference of Agency officers the Commissioner of Excise submitted, in March 1928, proposals for the introduction of the Central Distillery system in the G. Udayagiri taluk of the Ganjam Agency. The Commissioner reported later that there were doubts about the suitability of the system for the Ganjam Agency and that the local missionaries were not in favour of it. He requested that the consideration of the proposal might be deferred until he had had time to ascertain for himself the existing local conditions. The scheme has accordingly been held in abeyance.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) The document has not been submitted to the Government. The Government do not think it necessary to call for it and lay it on the table.

Elementary education in Ganjam Agency.

959 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of boys and girls of school-going age in the Ganjam Agency; and

(*b*) for how many such boys and girls elementary schools are available?

[a] Printed as Appendix XVI on pages 542–543 infra.

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A.—(*a*) The male and female population of the Ganjam Agency tracts was according to the census of 1921, 165,889 males and 167,009 females. Fifteen per cent of the total population would perhaps be a fair estimate of the number of school-going age.

(*b*) The total number of elementary schools for boys and girls in the Ganjam Agency on 31st March 1927 was 306.

Forest Panchayats

Forest panchayats in Kurnool district.

960 *Q.*—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the names of forest panchayats now in existence in the Kurnool district;

(*b*) the area of reserve forests under the control of every one of these panchayats;

(*c*) the range, of which the forest area now transferred, formed a part;

(*d*) the area of such range;

(*e*) the grazing fee levied by every one of these panchayats per cow-unit; and

(*f*) the nature of the panchayat area, namely, whether it is mere grazing area, whether it contains underwood or whether it contains tree growth fit for timber?

A.—(*a*) to (*f*) The Government have not the information, but have called for a report.

Land Revenue

Inclusion in settlement registers of the information regarding quit-rent payable by inamdars.

961 *Q.*—Mr. V. Kameswara Rao Nayudu: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the present settlement or diglott registers of Government jirayati villages show the assessment on enfranchised inams, but not the quit-rent payable by the inamdar on each inam or title-deed separately;

(*b*) if so, why this information is omitted; and

(*c*) whether the Government will be pleased to order the insertion of this information in the remarks column of the settlement registers now under preparation or to be prepared hereafter?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) & (*c*) The quit-rent referred to in clause (*a*) of the question is shown in village register B—Permanent field register of inams.

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Alleged failure of crops in Pallavapuram village, North Arcot district.

962 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a reservoir and a separate channel have been provided for Pallavapuram village, Cheyyar taluk, North Arcot district, from Cheyyar Anicut;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that water in the reservoir is and has been for some time in a low level and whether consequently water does not freely flow into the channel;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that even in "good" years failure of crops has occurred owing to the want of sufficient water and whether there have been fights with the neighbouring villagers for water; and

(*d*) whether Government will be pleased to call for a report on the matter?

A.—(*a*) to (*c*) The Government have no information on the matter.

(*d*) A report has been called for from the Chief Engineer.

Revenue Establishments

Appointment of depressed classes in the Ceded districts as clerks or probationary Revenue Inspectors.

963 Q.—Mr. M. V. GANGADHARA SIVA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any member of the depressed classes or Salay community has been appointed as probationary revenue inspectors or as clerks in the Ceded districts; and

(*b*) if so, how many in each district?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The following statement shows the number of persons belonging to the depressed classes or the Salay community appointed as probationary revenue inspectors or as clerks in the Ceded districts:—

Districts.	Depressed classes.		Salay community.	
	Probationary revenue inspectors.	Clerks.	Probationary revenue inspectors.	Clerks.
Bellary	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Cuddapah	..	2 (Boya)	..	3
Anantapur	..	3	..	2
Kurnool	..	..	..	9

Report of the Board of Revenue regarding the cost of the restoration of village officers.

964 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the report from the Board of Revenue regarding the total cost of the restored village officers referred to in question No. 1190 answered on 5th November 1927 has been received;

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(b) if so, what the cost is; and

(c) whether the Government propose to reconsider the question of increasing the pay of village officers?

A.—(a) & (b) A report has been received from the Board of Revenue but it did not contain full particulars of the financial effect of the restoration. The Board has been asked to supply them.

(c) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government.

Rules governing the conduct of village karnams.

965 Q.—Mr. V. KAMESWARA RAO NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any rules governing the conduct of karnams and village headmen; and

(b) if not, whether the Government propose to prescribe such rules, as in the case of other Government servants?

A.—(a) & (b) The Village Officers' Manual contains rules for the guidance of village headmen and karnams.

[For further list of unstarred questions, please see page 480 infra.]

STARRED QUESTIONS

Agriculture

Introduction of agricultural classes in the Board High School at Poonamallee.

* 966 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the experiences gained by the Agricultural Department, and the results achieved, by the introduction of agricultural classes and an agricultural farm in the Board High School, Poonamallee;

(b) the expenditure incurred by the Government thereon during the year 1927-28; and

(c) whether the Agricultural Department supervised the farm opened in the Poonamallee High School and whether the department propose to advise any improvements?

A.—(a) The Agricultural Department beyond giving advice when asked for it has not taken any special part in this experiment.

(b) The Agricultural Department have not expended anything.

(c) Advice was given by the Demonstrator at St. Thomas' Mount and the Deputy Director, IV Circle, during their visits to the school. Such advice from them can always be had when sought for.

Excise

Classification of palmyra or coconut toddy arrack as foreign.

* 967 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether arrack made from coconut or palmyra toddy is in any part of the Presidency classed as foreign; and

(b) if so, where and why?

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A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Palmyra toddy arrack is not at present manufactured anywhere in the Presidency. Coconut toddy arrack is manufactured in the distillery at Chowghat, Malabar district. On the recommendation of the Board of Revenue the Government in 1906 declared that, with effect from the lease commencing on 1st October 1906, coconut toddy arrack should be treated as foreign liquor and sold only in taverns and for private consumption in bottles. The objects of this order were to check illicit distillation and sale, to safeguard Government revenue, and to reduce the consumption of cheap imported foreign liquor.

Medical

Contributions to the Lady Havelock Hospital by the Cocanada Municipality.

*968 *Q.*—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Lady Havelock Hospital, Cocanada, was started by the District Board, East Godavari, and was being maintained by them for 30 years ;

(*b*) whether the District Board threatened to close down the hospital in 1926 and whether the Municipal Council was called upon to make a contribution of Rs. 2,000 a year for the maintenance of the hospital in 1926 ;

(*c*) whether the Cocanada Municipal Council passed resolutions to the effect that, in view of the large schemes on hand such as electricity, town extension and water-supply, the Council in the straitened circumstances cannot afford to pay the contribution ;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the Government expressed its unwillingness in May 1928 to relieve the Cocanada Municipality of the contribution ;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that on account of the present financial straitened circumstances and large commitments by reason of expensive schemes in operation, the Cocanada Municipal Council had to close down the Ayurvedic dispensaries which were recently opened ; and

(*f*) whether, in view of the circumstances mentioned in clauses (*c*) and (*e*), the Government would reconsider its decision to relieve the Municipal Council, Cocanada, from the yearly contribution of Rs. 2,000 to the Lady Havelock Hospital ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The Municipal Council passed a resolution on 6th September 1926 requesting the Government to relieve it of the payment of the contribution. This resolution did not refer to the schemes mentioned in the question, but the Chairman referred to these schemes in a letter, dated 25th April 1928.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Yes.

(*f*) The Government will consider the question.

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Establishment of a Gosha Hospital at Ellore.

*969 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received any petition from M.R.Ry. Maddula Venkata Chinaraju Garu, an influential merchant of Ellore, representing that the citizens of Ellore are ready to co-operate and raise by public donations a part of the necessary funds if the Government propose to establish a Gosha Hospital at Ellore; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken thereon?

A.—(a) Mr. Maddula Venkata Rao addressed Government in connexion with the contemplated construction of a Gosha hospital by the Salvation Army. The Salvation Army subsequently decided not to proceed with the proposal.

(b) The Government have expressed their inability to interfere in the matter.

Alleged ill-treatment of Christian patients by the Sub-Assistant Surgeon, Cumbum.

*970 Q.—Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received the mahazar of Cumbum Christians through me regarding the ill treatment of Christian patients by the Sub-Assistant Surgeon of Cumbum;

(b) whether he has received a separate mahazar directly from Cumbum Christians;

(c) what action was taken thereon;

(d) whether the President, District Board, Kurnool, has investigated into the matter;

(e) whether he submitted any report on it to the Government; and if so, what it is;

(f) whether the Sub-Assistant Surgeon Mr. B. R. Narayana Rao of Cumbum has been ill-treating the Christian patients of Cumbum by making them stand outside the hospital;

(g) whether it is a fact that he is not attending to the confinement cases of the Christians;

(h) whether it is a fact that he is not taking prescription chits directly from their hands;

(i) whether it is a fact that he was abusing the Christians;

(j) whether it is a fact that he got a Christian suspended from the hospital service for no fault of his;

(k) whether several telegrams were sent to different officials of the Kurnool district; and

(l) if the Government have no information, whether they will be pleased to get it from the district?

A.—(a) & (b) Yes.

(c) A report was called for from the Taluk Board President, Markapur.

(d) The Government have no information.

(e) No.

(f) to (i) No.

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(j) A Christian ward servant was suspended for persistent disobedience of orders.

(k) No information.

(l) The suggestion is indefinite and it is not possible to call for information.

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—"May I ask the hon. the Minister for Public Health whether he has since received the report from the Taluk Board President, Markapur?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The report was received from the President of the Markapur Taluk Board."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I wish to know what has become of the Minister for Public Health?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, he has asked me to answer the question and to apologise to you and the House for being away."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I did not receive any intimation from him or from the Minister for Education. The Leader of the House, I think, will manage to have the Public Health Minister here very soon.

"The Council will, in the absence of the Public Health Minister, proceed for the present with the subsequent questions regarding Education, etc."

[For further supplemental questions please see page 489 infra.]

Registration

Location of a Sub-Registrar's office at Devarapalli, Nidadavole taluk.

* 971 Q.—[Please see page 480.]

Education

Boarding and lodging accommodation for students in the Government Training School for Mistresses, Rajahmundry.

* 972 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of pupils who attended the Government Training School for Mistresses at Rajahmundry in each of the years since the same was started;

(b) whether any hostel is attached to the above school;

(c) the number of pupils residing therein;

(d) the charge prescribed for boarding and lodging for each pupil;

(e) whether any poor pupils are given free boarding and lodging; and

(f) whether Government make any grants for the hostel?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the subsidiary tables appended to Volume II of the Annual Reports on Public Instruction.

(b) & (f) There is a hostel attached to the school. The Government are meeting all expenses connected with it, except the pay of cooks and feeding and lighting charges which are borne by the boarders.

(c), (d) & (e) The Government have no information but have called for it.

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Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"May I know from the hon. the Minister for Education how far is this school from the hostel?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Notice, Sir."

Working hours, pay, etc., of Vernacular Pandits in the Lady Willingdon College.

973 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of periods per week the Sanskrit, Tamil and Telugu Pandits and the Music teacher, teach on the average in the Lady Willingdon College;

(b) the classes they take; and

(c) the scale of pay on which they are respectively employed, their length of service and the actual pay they are drawing now?

A.—The scale of pay sanctioned for the three pandits is Rs. 40—2—50 each a month. The post of music teacher is included in the cadre of secondary grade teachers, women's branch, which carries a pay of Rs. 45—3—90 with a selection grade on Rs. 100 for 20 per cent of the cadre. The Government have no information on the other points but have called for it.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I ask the Minister for Education whether these pandits are whole-time men or part-time men?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"They are whole-time pandits."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"If they are whole-time pandits, may I know why they are paid such a small salary as Rs. 40 a month?"

Facilities for educational training in South Kanara district.

*974 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the percentage of trained teachers in the elementary schools in South Kanara;

(b) the number of existing training schools in the district for the various grades and their capacity;

(c) the number of applications received during each of the last three years for training in the said schools gradewar and the number selected out of each;

(d) what steps, if any, the Government propose to take in the matter of providing additional facilities; and

(e) whether Government have any proposals under consideration to give aid to private schools that train teachers?

A.—(a) On the 31st March 1928 the percentage of trained teachers to the total number of teachers in elementary schools for boys in the South Kanara district was 47 and in elementary schools for girls 98.

(b) The numbers are as shown below :—

For Masters.

One secondary training class.
Two higher elementary training classes.
One lower elementary training class.

For Mistresses.

One secondary training class.
Two higher elementary training classes.
One lower elementary training class.

Information as to the maximum number of students for whom accommodation is available in these classes is not available.

(c) The information is not available.

(d) The question of opening an additional training school in the district with higher and lower elementary training classes for women teachers is under consideration.

(e) Training schools opened by private agencies may be granted aid under the Grant-in-aid Code.

Local Boards

Amendment Bill to the Local Boards Act.

* 975 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Bill prepared by Government to amend the Local Boards Act has been considered by the Local Boards Advisory Committee and if so, what their recommendations are; and

(b) when the Bill in question will be introduced in the Council?

A.—(a) Yes, and their recommendations are under consideration.

(b) The Bill will be introduced as soon as its provisions are finally settled.

Municipal Councils

Expenditure on road maintenance in Chidambaram Municipality.

* 976 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in respect of road maintenance a sum of Rs. 4,933 was spent by the Chidambaram Municipal Council in excess of the budget amount for 1927-28;

(b) whether there are any records authorizing or sanctioning the excess expenditure;

(c) whether it is a fact that the original resolution book relating to this item is not available in the office;

(d) whether the municipal council by its resolution, dated 31st August 1928, disallowed Rs. 1,000 out of Rs. 4,933; and

(e) whether the Government propose to cause a thorough investigation to be made into items of expenditure mis-spent or spent in excess without the sanction of the Council and to recover the same from the person liable therefor?

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A.—(a) From the accounts submitted to the Government by the Chairman it appears that the expenditure on the maintenance of the roads in 1927-28 exceeded the budget provision for the purpose by Rs. 4,934.

(b), (c) & (d) The Government have no information. They have called for a report.

(e) Whether any action on the part of the Government is necessary can be decided only after the receipt of the report.

Jails

Diet to non-vegetarian prisoners in jails.

*977 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the question of giving the non-vegetarian prisoners the kind of food they are used to, has been considered as promised in answer to the supplementary question to question No. 827 answered on 22nd October 1927; and

(b) if so, with what result?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have decided that no change in the existing practice is called for.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government have abandoned the principle of giving the food the prisoners are used to in the case of Indian prisoners?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The answer is given there."

Panchayat Courts

Provision of a clerk and peon for Panchayat Court.

978 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased—

(a) to lay on the table of the House copy of the proceedings, dated the 30th September 1928, of the Panchayat Court Members of the Kasargod taluk in South Kanara sent to him regarding the provision of a clerk and peon for each court, more stationery and furniture, etc.; and

(b) to state whether the Government have taken or propose to take any, and if so, what action in the matter?

A.—(a) A copy of the proceedings referred to is laid on the table.[a]

(b) The matter is under the consideration of Government.

Panchayat Courts in South Kanara district.

*979 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of village courts and the number of panchayat courts in the several taluks of South Kanara (from the latest returns available) classifying them under the following heads, viz., those which have below

[a] Printed as Appendix XVII on pages 545–546 infra.

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100 suits per year, 100 to 300 suits, 300 to 500 suits, 500 to 1,000 suits, 1,000 to 1,500 suits, 1,500 to 2,000 suits, 2,000 to 3,000 suits and over 3,000 suits (or any similar classification to show the quantity of work);

(b) the total income and expenditure from these courts talukwar;

(c) the number out of these which are supplied with a clerk or a peon or both;

(d) the approximate monthly salary given to such clerk or peon;

(e) the nature and adequacy of the furniture supplied to these courts;

(f) the nature and adequacy of the stationery supplied to them; and

(g) whether Government propose to call for a report from the Collector of the district on the actual needs of these courts with regard to

(i) a clerk and a peon,

(ii) the furniture,

(iii) stationery, and

(iv) on the additional cost that may be required for the same and place the same report on the table of the House, when received?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*f*) The Government have no information.

(*g*) The Government do not consider it necessary to call for a report.

Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"May I ask why the Government do not consider it necessary to call for a report for furnishing information regarding the necessity for a clerk, peon and some furniture, etc.?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Because, the benefit that is likely to be derived from this enquiry is not proportionate to the amount of trouble involved in the enquiry."

Railways

Alleged scarcity of well-spanned bridges in Vizagapatam and East Godavari districts.

*980 *Q.*—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the recent floods in the Vizagapatam and East Godavari districts are due partly to the absence of sufficient number of well-spanned bridges and culverts on the railway line capable of draining away accumulations of water due to heavy rains in the hills and flooded streams;

(*b*) whether the Government intend investigating into the matter of the sufficiency and capacity of the existing bridges and culverts of the railway line in the Vizagapatam and East Godavari districts; and

(*c*) whether with reference to the Cocanada-Kotipalli Railway that is now under construction the Government propose to take proper precautions to provide a sufficient number of well-spanned bridges in view of the fact that the Cocanada-Kotipalli Railway line runs through delta irrigation tracts?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no reason to think that the floods are due to the cause mentioned, but they will consider the question and address the Agent if necessary.

(*c*) Due precautions are being taken in the case of the Cocanada-Kotipalli Railway.

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Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu :—" Are the Government aware that the general opinion in the country—it is mentioned in the papers too—is that it is on account of the insufficient number of well-spanned bridges and culverts that the railway line has been washed away ? "

The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir :—" I am not aware of it."

Stationery

Tenders for ink, etc., supplied by the Superintendent of Stationery.

* 981 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the different kinds of ink and the quantities thereof ordered for by the Superintendent of Stationery during the current and the three previous years and the names of the suppliers whose tenders were finally accepted by him and their rates; and

(b) whether before entering into a contract for the supply of the articles needed by him, the Superintendent of Stationery invited tenders for their supply and, in doing so, whether he furnished any specification of the materials required according to recognized standards such as those obtaining in foreign countries and in the Government of India ?

A.—(a) A statement [a] is laid on the table. It is not desirable to publish the rates.

(b) Tenders were not called for in 1925–26, 1926–27 and 1927–28, but orders were placed with the Director of Industries and other suppliers after obtaining samples and quotations. For 1928–29, tenders are called for in open market. Such specifications were not furnished.

Agency

Resolution of the Agency Conference regarding the abolition of the Agency Educational Officer.

* 982 Q.—Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Agency Conference held in 1927 resolved to abolish the post of Agency Educational Officer and if so, the reasons for the same ;

(b) whether the Director of Public Instruction and the Educational department have finally come to any conclusion ; and

(c) if the office is abolished, the means devised to carry on the work of supervision ?

A.—(a) The Conference of Agency Officers held in February 1928 did make such a recommendation. The Conference was of opinion that the office of the Agency Educational Officer caused delay between the Special Assistant Agents and the supervisors of schools.

(b) & (c) The question is under the consideration of Government.

Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo :—" With reference to (a) may I know whether there are instances of the delay said to have been caused in the correspondence and if so who is responsible for it, the Special Assistant Agents or the Agency Educational Officer ? "

[a] Printed as Appendix XVIII on pages 546–547 infra.

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I have no doubt that each will say that it was the other that was responsible."

Proposed abolition of the Agency Educational Officer.

*983 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether before the post of the Agency Educational Officer is abolished the Government propose to consult the District Educational Officers of Ganjam, Vizagapatam and Godavari as to whether they would be able to carry out the work as effectively as the Agency Educational Officer in the Agency ;

(b) whether any addition to the existing establishment is necessary if the Agency work is to be attended to by the three above officers ; and

(c) whether Government propose to consult public men in these three districts as to the desirability of abolishing this office ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The question will be considered if and when it is decided to abolish the post of Agency Educational Officer.

(c) The answer is in the negative.

Papers relating to the abolition of the Agency Educational Officer.

*984 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the table—

(a) G.O. No. 259, Law (Education), dated 18th February 1925, regarding the abolition of the post of Agency Educational Officer,

(b) letters submitted to Government on this subject by the Agents to the Governor in Ganjam, Vizagapatam and the Godavari districts expressing their views on this subject ; and

(c) the opinions then expressed by the Director of Public Instruction on this question ?

A.—(a) A copy of G.O. No. 259, Law (Education), dated 18th February 1925 is placed on the table*.

(b) & (c) The Government will consider whether or no such papers should be published after they have passed orders thereon.

Constitution of Districts, Divisions, and taluks.

Formation of the Pamarru taluk.

*985 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state —

(a) whether the proposal to carve out a new taluk called Pamarru in Kistna district has been abandoned altogether ;

(b) if not, in what stage it is ;

(c) if the Pamarru taluk is to be formed what will be the reshuffling of the revenue divisions in the Kistna district ; and

(d) what will be the headquarters of the new revenue divisions as reshuffled ?

A.—(a) to (d) The answer to clause (a) is in the affirmative.

* Printed as Appendix XIX on page 547 infra.

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Land Assignment.

Assignment of a certain piece of land in Manjembedu village.

*986 Q.—Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a piece of land measuring about 24 cents in Manjembedu village, No. 181 of Conjeeveram taluk, Wallajahbad firka, was assigned to one Adi-Dravida by name Kuppan, son of Arumugam, more than three years ago;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government are now demanding from the said Adi-Dravida a certain amount of money over and above the means of this poor Adi-Dravida, and why; and

(c) whether the Government will consider the advisability of confirming the assignment of the said land to the same man without demanding any payment at this stage?

A.—The Government have no knowledge of the case and have issued no orders of the kind referred to in clause (b). If the action of a subordinate authority is in question, the Government will consider the matter on receipt of an appeal in the usual course accompanied by copies of the orders objected to.

Loans

Grant of loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act.

*987 Q.—Rajkumar S. N. DORAI RAJA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the Council table all the orders issued by the Government from 1918 till 1928 regarding the grant of loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act?

A.—All the general orders of Government on the subject of loans granted under the Act in question are embodied in the Madras Takkavi Manual which is a publication available in the Secretariat Library. A very recent order of Government—G.O. No. 2756, Revenue, dated 24th November 1928—which has not yet been so embodied is placed on the table.[a]

Minor Irrigation

Minor irrigation tanks in the Presidency.

*988 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of tanks under minor irrigation in the Presidency;

(b) the extent irrigated under each tank;

(c) the revenue derivable for lands under each;

(d) whether any of them breached during the recent heavy rains (in October last);

(e) if so, how many; and

(f) the cost of repairing them?

A.—(a) to (f) A report has been called for.

[a] Printed as Appendix XX on page 548 infra.

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Water-rate

Assessment of lands in Tanjore district.

*989 *Q.*—Rajkumar S. N. DORAI RAJA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased—

(i) to call for and lay on the table rent roll irrigation source and soilwar area classification and assessments of Ekabogam ryotwari villages in Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Madura districts, wherein all lands are monopolized by five or ten landholders; and

(ii) to state whether it is a fact that lands in the soilwar classification area are assessed at far lower rates in well-to-do villages than similar lands occupied by poor miscellaneous pattadars in other adjacent villages of all firkas in Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts?

A.—The Board of Revenue has been asked to report the information required in clause (i) if it is readily available; and to report on the allegation in clause (ii).

Rajkumar S. N. DORAI RAJA:—"Will the hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to see that the reports are made available to the Members before the next meeting of the Council."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"The Government will do their best, Sir."

Proposed transfer of Kontivada zamin in West Godavari district from Schedule A to B under the Irrigation Cess Act.

*990 *Q.*—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: With reference to the Revenue Department notification No. 220 published at page 1194 of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 7th August 1928, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Government will be pleased to place on the table of the House all the material papers upon which the proposal to transfer Kontivada zamin in West Godavari district from Schedule A to B under the Irrigation Cess Act, 1865, is based;

(*b*) whether the notification referred to in (*a*) has been published in Telugu in the *West Godavari District Gazette* and in Kontivada village office and, if so, on what date or dates;

(*c*) before what date the ryots of Kontivada zamin have to submit their objections to the said proposal;

(*d*) why it is that in the notification referred to above objections are called for in respect of individual fields instead of in respect of the proposal for transfer as a whole;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that a similar request for transfer preferred by the proprietor in 1927 was rejected both by the Board of Revenue and the Collector, West Godavari district; and

(*f*) if the answer to (*e*) be in the affirmative, what has since happened that those two authorities should now change their attitude and recommend the proposal to Government?

A.—(*a*), (*e*) & (*f*) A copy of the report from the Board of Revenue, No. H. 7221/27-3, dated 13th July 1928, and its enclosures are laid on the table. [a]

[a] Printed as Appendix XXI on pages 549—554 infra.

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(b) The notification was published in the *West Godavari District Gazette* on 8th October 1928 in Telugu. As regards its publication in the village office the Government have no information.

(c) Before 8th December 1928.

(d) As the mamul wet lands in the estate have been localized and as the record of rights prepared for the estate has become final, it would seem to be now in order to invite and consider individual objections. The objections might not be common to all the lands in the estate.

Settlement

Enquiry into the conduct of a village munsif by the Tahsildar of Bhimavaram.

*991 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tahsildar, Bhimavaram, is actively engaged in making enquiries whether a certain village munsif is in any way connected with the representations made to Government by the people in West Godavari district regarding resettlement proposals;

(b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, at whose instance and with what object the enquiry has been undertaken; and

(c) whether village munsifs are prohibited from associating themselves with representations made to Government regarding resettlement proposals?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government do not know whether this is so or not.

(c) There is no such prohibition.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"With reference to the answer to clauses (a) and (b), may I know whether the Government will be pleased to call for the information?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"No, Sir."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"May I know why the Government refuse to call for the information?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"Because there is nothing wrong in a tahsildar making enquiries concerning the activities of one of his subordinates."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"In answer to clause (c), the Government have stated that there is no prohibition in the matter of village munsifs associating themselves with representations made to Government regarding resettlement proposals. In that case where is the necessity for the tahsildar to make enquiries of that kind?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"We do not know what the scope of the enquiry is."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"Therefore, will the Government be pleased to ascertain the scope of the enquiry now being made by the tahsildar?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"There is no reason to suppose that he is enquiring with the object of enforcing a prohibition that does not exist."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR, on account of whose absence questions relating to his portfolio were postponed, attended the Council by this time and made the following statement :—

"I am sorry, Mr. President, I was not here when the additional or supplementary list of questions was called in. I was urgently called away and I had asked my hon. Colleague, Dr. Subbarayan, to answer them if they were called in before I was able to come. I expected to be back within five or six minutes, but could not do so quickly. I am very sorry and I apologize to you and to the House for not being present when the questions were called in. If any hon. Member wishes to put questions, I am ready to answer."

Supplemental questions to question No. 970.

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—"Sir, may I ask the Minister for Public Health whether he has since received the report from the President of the Markapur Taluk Board ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"The report was received."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—"May I know whether he has received a report from the District Board President, Kurnool ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"No, Sir."

Registration

Location of a Sub-Registrar's office at Devarapalli, Nidadavole taluk.

*971 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the people of Devarapalli and the neighbouring villages have submitted any petition praying for the location of a Sub-Registrar's office at Devarapalli, Nidadavole taluk, West Godavari district ; and

(b) whether the District Registrar, West Godavari, recommended the establishment of a Sub-Registrar's office at Devarapalli ; and if so, whether Government propose to give effect to the recommendation ?

A.—(a) & (b) No such proposal has been received by Government.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"May I know whether the Inspector-General of Registration has received the proposal referred to in the question and whether it has been pending with him ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"There is no such proposal now pending with the Government."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"May I know whether the Registrar-General has sent up any such proposal ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"I do not know, probably he will be sending, if he has received one."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Agriculture

Number of Agricultural experiment stations in the province.

992 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) how many Agricultural experiment stations there are in the province ;

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(b) how many of these are in the Telugu districts (Andhradesa) and how many in the Tamil districts (Tamil Nadu); and

(c) the reasons for the inequality, if any?

A.—(a) Thirty-one.

(b) Eight in the Telugu districts and seventeen in the Tamil districts.

(c) The location of stations is not determined on a linguistic basis. Each station has a definite purpose to serve for the benefit of the agricultural problems of the Presidency as a whole and has been located in such places where it was felt after mature consideration that the particular purpose which it was to serve could best be dealt with. Besides, at Coimbatore where the Agricultural College and Research Institute are situated, there are several stations which also account for the larger number of stations in the Tamil districts.

Medical

Dermatological clinics in Tamil and Telugu districts.

993 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of places where Dermatological clinics have been opened in Tamil districts; and

(b) whether any clinics have been opened in Telugu districts, if so, where; if not, why not?

A.—(a) Two.

(b) For want of accommodation in District Headquarter Hospitals no clinics have so far been opened in the Telugu districts.

Constitution of Provinces

Formation of an Andhra Province.

994 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) at what stage the question of the formation of the Andhra Province is; and

(b) whether this Government have had any further correspondence in the matter of the formation of an Andhra Province with the Central Government since answer to question No. 102 answered on 4th September 1928?

A.—(a) This Government has no information on the point.

(b) No.

Irrigation

Alleged failure of water-supply in the Cauvery and its tributaries.

995 Q.—Mr. C. Marudavanam Pillai: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that during September and October 1928 there has been a very serious drought in the district of Tanjore;

(b) whether it is a fact that side by side with the failure of local rains there has also been a failure of the supply of water in the Cauvery and its distributaries;

(c) if so, to what causes this failure of water-supply in the rivers of the Tanjore district was due;

(d) whether the Government are also aware of the fact that during this period of drought in the district of Tanjore, the rivers of the Vennar irrigation area had some supply of water, whereas the rivers of the Cauvery irrigation tract were completely dry;

(e) whether cultivation has been very greatly retarded on this account;

(f) whether the Government propose to take any steps at an early date to set right such drawbacks in irrigation as may have in any manner been responsible for this very serious failure in the supply of water in the Cauvery delta in particular and the whole of this district in general; and

(g) whether any representations were received from the landholders of the district and if so, what action was taken thereon?

A.—(a), (b) & (e) In the weekly season reports for the weeks ending 22nd September, 29th September, 6th October and 13th October water-supply was reported to be insufficient for irrigation. It was also reported that the transplantation of paddy and sowings were retarded. The Government have no reason for thinking that there was a serious drought.

(c) The period in question is in all years an anxious time, as is explained in paragraph 19 at page 5 of Volume I of the papers connected with the Cauvery Reservoir Project, a copy of which is in the Council Library. Failure of supply in the Cauvery distributaries is due to lack of rain in Coorg and other places far from Tanjore.

(d) The Government are not aware that this is so.

(f) The Mettur Project has been designed partly to provide steady supplies to the delta ayacut.

(g) Some representations were received. They were transferred to the Chief Engineer for disposal.

Pounds

Transfer of cattle pounds to local bodies.

996 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state, with reference to the answer to a supplementary question to question No. 697 answered on 30th March 1927:

(a) whether he has considered the question of the transfer of cattle pounds to local bodies; and

(b) if so, what the result of such consideration is?

A.—(a) Yes. The question of transfer was examined as regards pounds within the limits of municipalities, unions and village panchayats.

(b) As matters stand the Government are not prepared to place the village headmen, who are at present by law the ex-officio pound keepers, under the control of local bodies; and, if the law were amended so as to free the village headmen from that duty, it would impose a heavy financial liability on the local bodies to employ pound keepers. Therefore as there appeared to be nothing to commend the proposal it was dropped.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II

A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS UNIVERSITY ACT, 1923.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The Council will now resume consideration of the Madras University (Amending) Bill." 12-15 p.m.

Clause 24.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I want to urge the importance of including the faculty of comparative religion, veterinary science and technology and with this object I moved my [a] amendment the other day. Comparative religion deals not only with the highest religions, but also with primitive religions. Even the aboriginal tribes have got some kind of religion. To say that they have no religion is certainly incorrect. There is religion among animists who fancy that all the objects of nature possess a spiritual life or vitality. So, it will be very interesting to study the sub-strata of religions. In Europe, America and Japan they have got in several of their universities, faculties for the study of the science of comparative religion of the world. We have got the faculty of theology in Benares and Aligarh Universities. I would therefore urge that study of comparative religion should be included as a faculty in the Madras University also. We shall be able to find very learned and eminent lecturers on Christian, Hindu and Muhammadan theologies."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think that the argument that teachers are available to teach this subject is pertinent to this amendment."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I have got the University calendar with me and it contains a faculty for commerce. But we have no commercial colleges."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think the hon. Member will be in order in referring to those points now."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, you asked me a question and I wanted to answer it, by saying that the problem of finding teachers is an important one and so far as the faculty of comparative religions is concerned we will have no difficulty in finding suitable teachers."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will be quite in order as long as he refers to the necessity of establishing a faculty for the study of comparative religion. He will not be in order if he develops his argument regarding the availability of teachers and how they can be secured."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Now, I shall take up veterinary science, which is of the highest importance to this Presidency. We have got a Veterinary college. It has not been raised to the status of a university college nor is it affiliated to the University. That can be easily done if Government makes up its mind to raise the standard in that college. If they do so, it would be much more useful to the public. In the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture several appointments in the Veterinary department have been proposed by that Commission. The argument which the Government advanced the other day with regard to the preparation of proper serum in this Presidency was that they were not able to find a sufficient number of trained men.

[a] CLAUSE 24.—In line 5, after the word 'Arts' insert the words 'comparative religion, veterinary science and technology'.

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha] [29th November 1928

If the Government raises the standard of this Veterinary college and our University also includes Veterinary science as one of the faculties, I am sure we will be able to get a number of trained men. Sir, this is the reason why I want that veterinary science should be introduced as a faculty, feeling as I do the great needs of the agricultural population of this Presidency.

"Thirdly, I wish to deal with Technology. I think that subject has been included as a faculty in the curriculum of the Andhra University. It was only the other day, as a result of my amendment, that Technology was included as one of the faculties in the Annamalai University Bill. Technology is a very wide subject. Technology is the science of industrial arts and the cultivation of this science is of the highest importance to this Presidency. It is true we have not got any big college. We have got only a trade school and a few industrial schools. That is the reason why I would insist that such a faculty should find a place in our University Calendar because the Government have been very indifferent as to the establishment of technological colleges. We send our boys to the Victoria Technical College at Bombay. Even that is a third-class institution when compared with other similar institutions in Europe and Japan. Now this Presidency with a population of 42 millions should have more number of schools of arts and technological schools and a college. I am sure the hon. the Minister feels there is a great necessity for the development of industries in this Province, but whenever we ask him to adopt a more liberal policy with regard to the departments entrusted to his charge, he asks 'Where is money.' If we in this Council now decide that we ought to have a faculty in Technology, I think the Government will be bound to provide the necessary facilities for the establishment of a technological college."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I do not think the hon. Member will be in order if he develops his argument in that way. He will be quite in order if he adduces arguments for the inclusion of Technology as one of the faculties in the curriculum of the University."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I was led into that line of thought when you, Sir, put the question to me about the availability of teachers."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS :—"I beg to second the motion of my hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha. It appears to me that the subject of comparative religion is one of primary importance and at the same time of fascinating interest to all Indians. Our country of India possesses peculiar facilities and peculiar advantages for the study of comparative religion which I believe no other country in the world possesses at this time. Within the four limits of our country we can find religions living, vital religions which influence the every day life and thought of our people, from small stages, from comparatively primitive and early stages of religions to the most advanced and highest forms. I also believe that the Indian, by temperament, by natural gifts is peculiarly fitted to pursue studies in comparative religion The history of the country has been rich in studies of religions. The history of the country shows us how the great figures, the great geniuses have played their part in the matter of religion at every stage. I believe by tradition, by inheritance and at the same time by temperamental gifts and training the Indian is peculiarly gifted, perhaps above most of the people of the world, to continue studies in comparative religion. I will therefore consider that no University in India will be complete without the foundation for a study of comparative religion. It

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is regrettable to note that even in this field of comparative religion for which the country affords so many facilities and for which the people are so peculiarly fitted. . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"May I know what the paper is that the hon. Member Mr. Tulasiram is reading?"

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—"I am reading a paper entitled 'Universities and Industries'."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Is it for quoting on this subject?"

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—"Yes, for quoting."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS :—"As I said, it is a matter for regret that in our country of India in a subject like comparative religion we have to take our lead from Westerners who have made it a point to take special interest in the religions of our land and to throw further light in expounding the principles of those religions. I believe time is ripe when reform ought to be effected in our education and in our universities and a chair should be found for the study of comparative religion. That will enable people to make researches and carry on deep studies in our religions thus tending to greater usefulness of the country in future. I have great pleasure in seconding the motion of my hon. Friend."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I can quite see the motive that impelled my hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha to move this amendment. As a matter of fact in the Select Committee the words 'Commerce, Oriental learning, fine arts' were put in by his persuasive eloquence. His eloquence was not quite enough to persuade the Select Committee to agree for the inclusion of the third subject, viz., comparative religion. If my hon. Friend on the other side will read the clause he will find it stated thus: 'The University shall include faculties of arts, science, law, medicine, engineering, teaching, agriculture, commerce, oriental learning, fine arts and such other faculties as may be prescribed by the statutes.' So that the University is not precluded from having these faculties if they find competent men to form these faculties. 12-30 p.m. As it is, there is a great deal of difficulty to find men to serve on the faculties already there. But there is the addition of the faculties of Oriental learning, fine arts and commerce. For Oriental learning it is not difficult to find men; but for fine arts and commerce it is difficult to find men to serve on these faculties. If Mr. Saldanha's amendment is accepted the section will read: 'The University shall include faculties of arts, etc. . .' This means that the University will be compelled to have these faculties. What will happen if they are compelled to include these faculties statutorily and legally? They will find it difficult to find men who know anything about these subjects which Mr. Saldanha has very much at heart. I would ask him to kindly withdraw his amendment, because we have already accepted that technology should be one of the subjects of study in the University on a motion of my hon. Friend Mr. Gopala Menon."

* Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—"Sir, I find that our Madras University has been producing graduates cultured in literature and classics alone; but we have not been giving any attention to the development of industries or technology. I here thank the hon. the President for his care in finding out

[Mr. L. K. Tulasiram] [29th November 1928

what newspaper I was reading; I was only preparing to give a quotation in the Council. There are those who believe that a University degree is of no help but rather a handicap in business career. There is a lot of unemployment in the country and all the same our University is only a University producing quill-drivers, people who seek employment only in the public services. If you want to relieve this unemployment you will have to make arrangements to give the students of the University a training for a profitable career. You may have Oriental learning and all other kinds of learning together; but without an industrial bias our Universities will be of no use and they will only tend to produce discontent and extremism in the country. I beg of the hon. Minister to at least incorporate technology, which I know he has been kind enough to incorporate in the Annamalai University Bill. If I am permitted to do so, I should like to move that the words 'comparative religion and veterinary science' may be omitted in Mr. Saldanha's amendment and the word, 'technology' alone retained."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member may move his amendment as an amendment to Mr. Saldanha's amendment."

* Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—" Sir, I beg to move that the words 'comparative religion, veterinary science and' be omitted from Mr. Saldanha's amendment."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" I second it."

Mr. J. A. SALDHANA :—" I agree to that."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, I have already mentioned that there would be difficulty in giving effect to the object of the mover of this amendment. It is more easy to get men for the faculty of veterinary science which is sought to be omitted here; it is not easy to get men for the faculty of technology, because there are no technological institutes in this Presidency. Here, I may say for the information of my hon. Friends Mr. Saldanha and Mr. Tulasiram that it is one of the intentions of the Government to convert the Engineering College into a Technological Institute. The scheme will not be ready for the budget of the coming year, since no proposalss have been received to that effect. One of the things that I took up was to ask the Director of Public Instruction to submit proposals for this scheme. When that is an accomplished fact then there will certainly be men who would be competent to serve on the faculty of technology in the University. But till that time comes, no purpose will be served by compelling the University to have a faculty of technology without having either the staff or the equipment for a technological institute in the province. I hope my hon. friend Mr. Saldanha will withdraw his amendment."

The amendment that the words 'comparative religion, veterinary science and' be omitted from Mr. Saldanha's amendment was put to the House and passed. The amendment that after the word, 'Arts' the word 'Technology' be inserted was put to the House and declared carried. A poll was demanded by the hon. Minister.

After the hon. President had began reading the question to the House the hon. Member Dr. Mallayya entered the House and took his seat.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" When did the hon. Member enter the Chamber?

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Dr. B. S. Mallayya.—" Just now, Sir." (Laughter.)

* The hon. the President :—" The hon. Member will please remain outside until this division is over."

The House then divided thus :

Ayes.

1. Mr. S. Satyamurti.
2. ,, C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar.
3. ,, T. Adinarayana Chettiyar.
4. ,, P. Anjaneyulu.
5. ,, P. C. Venkatapathi Raju.
6. ,, J. A. Saldanha.
7. ,, Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib.
8. ,, C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar.
9. ,, G. Harisarvottama Rao.
10. ,, C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar.
11. ,, K. V. R. Swami.
12. ,, K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar.
13. ,, D. Narayana Raju.
14. ,, K. Uppi Sahib.
15. Mr. Mothay Narayana Rao.
16. ,, A. Parasurama Rao.
17. ,, C. Ramasomayajulu.
18. ,, Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib.
19. ,, P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu.
20. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo.
21. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao.
22. ,, R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
23. ,, K. Koti Reddi.
24. ,, L. K. Tulasiram.
25. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
26. Mr. Ramanath Goenka.
27. ,, T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
28. ,, C. Gopala Menon.

Noes.

1. The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks.
2. ,, Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur.
3. ,, Mr. T. E. Moir.
4. ,, Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar.
5. ,, Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar.
6. ,, ,, S. Muthiah Mudaliyar.
7. ,, Dr. P. Subbarayan.
8. Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai.
9. Rao Bahadur C. V. Anantakrishna Ayyar.
10. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur.
11. Mr. H. A. Watson.
12. ,, C. A. Souter.
13. ,, S. H. Slater.
14. ,, A. McG. C. Tampoe.
15. ,, C. W. E. Cotton.
16. ,, V. Ch. John.
17. ,, M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
18. ,, Syed Tajudin Sahib.
19. ,, W. E. Smith.
20. ,, H. B. Ari Gowder.
21. ,, A. B. Shetty.
22. ,, J. Bheemayya.
23. ,, R. Foulkes
24. ,, P. J. Gnanavaram Pillai.
25. ,, Mahmud Schamnad Sahib.
26. ,, Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara.
27. Mr. F. E. Corley.
28. ,, J. Kuppuswami.
29. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
30. Mr. Al. Ar. Narayanan Chettiyar.
31. ,, K. Krishnan.
32. ,, M. V. Gangadhara Siva.
33. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami.
34. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
35. ,, W. P. A. Soundara Pandia Nadar.
36. ,, S. Subrahmanya Moopanar.
37. ,, Daniel Thomas.
38. ,, S. V. Vanavudaiya Gounder.
39. ,, S. Venkiah
40. Rai Sahib M. Hampayya.
41. The Zamindar of Singampatti.
42. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan.
43. Mr. R. J. C. Robertson.
44. Rajkumar S. N. Durai Raja.
45. The Zamindar of Kallikota.
46. Mr. K. Ramachandra Padayachi.
47. ,, G. R. Premayya.
48. ,, A. S. Sahajananda Swami.
49. ,, V. Ramji Rao.
50. The Raja of Panagal.
51. Mr. P. T. Rajan.
52. ,, Khadir Mohidin Sahib.
53. ,, K. Sarabha Reddi.
54. ,, A. V. Bhanoji Rao.

Ayes 28. Noes 54.

The amendment was lost.

* The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" Mr. President, I move—

that in line 8, for the words ' The constitution ' the words, ' Otherwise the constitution ' be substituted.

" In the previous sentence it is stated that each faculty shall comprise such departments of teaching as may be prescribed by the ordinances. The number and nature of the faculties are described there and it is desirable to prefix the word ' Otherwise ' in this place."

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The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"I second it."

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

Clause 24 as amended was put to the House, passed and added to the Bill.

Clauses 25, 26, 27, 28 *and* 29.

Clauses 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29 were put to the House one by one, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 30.

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Mr. President, I move—

that in lines 6 *and* 7, *the words 'constituent colleges and' be omitted; and in lines* 7 *and* 8 *the words 'and the conditions of affiliation of colleges to the University' be omitted.*

"This is because the conditions of recognition of constituent colleges, of affiliation with the University of Affiliated Colleges, etc., are provided for in clause 28 (*c*). Therefore it would be better to omit these words from this clause."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"I second it."

The amendment was put to the House and passed.

* Mr. W. E. SMITH :—"Mr. President, Sir, may I move an amendment to omit the word 'colleges'?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Will the hon. Member please put his amendment in writing and send it to me?"

12-45 p.m. * Mr. W. E. SMITH :—"Sir, I beg to move that the word 'colleges' may be omitted."

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"I beg to second the amendment."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Sir, I am afraid it is not easy to follow the effect of the amendment of the expert Member. As the section stands in the amending Bill as reported by the Select Committee the amendment of the hon. the Minister suggests that you should take out of the scope of ordinances the conditions of recognition of constituent colleges as well as the conditions of affiliation of colleges, on the ground that they are vested in the Senate in consultation with the Academic Council and so, would form rightly the subject-matter of statutes. That would be achieved by the carrying, by this House, of the hon. the Minister's amendment. I wish to know, Sir, if the amendment wants to omit the word 'and' also . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I am not able to understand the amendment clearly. Will the hon. Member read the clause as it would read if his amendment is carried?"

* Mr. W. E. SMITH :—"If my amendment is carried, the clause would read as follows: 'the conditions of recognition of constituent hostels'."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The proper course for Mr. Smith is to withdraw the present amendment and then propose a new amendment."

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* Mr. W. E. SMITH :—"I beg to withdraw the amendment."

The amendment was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I think the hon. Member will do well to propose the omission of the words 'constituent' in the amendment of the hon. the Chief Minister. Does he agree to it?"

* Mr. W. E. SMITH :—"I beg to move that the word 'constituent' be omitted."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"I second it."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"With all respect, Sir, this makes nonsense, because there are colleges of two kinds under the scheme of this Act; the colleges in Madras which are called constituent colleges have got to be recognized; then there are colleges in the mufassal which are called affiliated colleges. According to this amendment we are going to say that the conditions of recognition of constituent colleges should apply to affiliated colleges also. Do you want these conditions to be applied to affiliated colleges? I do not see why you should omit the word 'constituent', because recognition by the very nature of the definition of the word in the Act refers only to constituent colleges.

"With all respect, may I remind you of your ruling on an earlier amendment of mine that we are not at the drafting stage now? I consider the amendment of the hon. Minister is all right and any attempt to interfere with it now will land us in difficulties. I therefore suggest to my hon. Friend, the expert Member, to withdraw his amendment and allow the amendment of the hon. Minister to go forward. If there are drafting defects, they can be remedied at a later stage—the third reading of this Bill. The reason given by the hon. the Minister is sound and satisfactory. These are matters governed by statutes of the University; we want them to be outside the scope of the ordinances. Let us leave things as they are, and not interfere with them at the last moment."

* Mr. W. E. SMITH :—"I beg to withdraw the amendment."

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is 'in lines 6 and 7, *omit* the words 'constituent colleges and' and in lines 7 and 8, *omit* the words, 'and the conditions of affiliation of colleges to the University'.'"

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 30 as amended was put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 31.

Clause 31 was put, passed and added to the Bill.

New Clause 31-A.

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

'*Insert the following as a new clause* 31-A :—

"31-A. *In section* 35 *of the said Act*—

(i) *in sub-section* (2) *for the word* '*Senate*', *the word* '*Syndicate*' *shall be substituted*;

(ii) *in sub-section* (3) *the words* '*or hostel*' *in the two places where they occur shall be omitted*; *and*

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(iii) *after sub-section* (3) *the following sub-section shall be inserted as sub-section* (4), *namely—*

'(4) *The Syndicate shall have power to suspend or withdraw the recognition of any hostel which may not be conducted in accordance with the conditions prescribed, provided that no such action shall be taken without affording the management of such hostel an opportunity of making such representation as it may deem fit.*'."

"It is proposed that the word 'Syndicate' shall be substituted for the word 'Senate' because I feel that the Syndicate will be a better authority to provide for the recognition and management of hostels. That is the reason why the word 'Senate' is omitted and the word 'Syndicate' is substituted. Therefore this new clause 31-A is proposed to be added."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"I second it."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Sir, I hope you will be pleased to put these clauses one by one to the vote of the House. I have no objection to clauses (ii) and (iii), speaking for myself. Clause (i) wants to substitute the Syndicate for the Senate. On the merits of the question I do not propose to address the House. But the hon. the Minister will see that in section 35 of the Act these words occur, colleges and hostels. Then those maintained by the University shall be such as will be recognized by the Senate on such general or special conditions as may be prescribed. That is a power vested in the Senate under section 16 of the original Act as amended by clause 17 of the Bill under discussion. In clause 17 you will find sub-clause (5), 'to institute and maintain constituent colleges, to prescribe in consultation with the Academic Council the conditions of recognition as constituent colleges of colleges not maintained by the University.' It is the power of the Senate to prescribe, in consultation with the Academic Council, the conditions of recognition of constituent colleges as constituent colleges if they are not maintained by the University. The Senate prescribes these conditions. The original Act, as it stood, left it to the Senate to recognize colleges and hostels other than those maintained by the University. Even under the scheme of the Bill, Sir, this right is maintained, as I have said already, by the Senate. No doubt, the new Bill gives the power, under general prescription of conditions by the Senate, to the Syndicate to recognize colleges within the limits of the University and not maintained by the University as constituent colleges. I presume my hon. Friend wants that in order to carry out that section of the Bill, it should be transferred from the Senate to the Syndicate. But although this new power is given by this House to the Syndicate, I would prefer that the larger body called the Senate should have the power so far as the purpose of this section, the admission and residence of students, is concerned. In this new matter which deals with the rather important question of admission and residence of students I would suggest that, where you want every student of the University shall reside in a hostel and if so in which hostel, that power may be left exactly as it is in the original Act in the Senate and not transferred to the Syndicate. I commend this point to the attention of the hon. Minister and the House."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Sir, I have no objection to withdraw my amendment with regard to clause (i). Clauses (ii) and (iii) may be renumbered as (i) and (ii). I move this amendment with your permission."

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The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I do not think the mover of a motion has himself got the right of amending it.".

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"Sir, I move—

'that sub-clause (i) be omitted and that sub-clauses (ii) and (iii) be re-numbered as (i) and (ii)'."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"I second it."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is 'to omit sub-clause (i)' and re-number 'sub-clauses (ii) and (iii) as (i) and (ii)'."

The amendment was put and carried.

The original amendment as further amended was put to the House and carried.

Clauses 32 *to* 34.

Clauses 32 to 34 were put one by one, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 35.

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Mr. President, Sir, I move—

In line 4, after the word sum the words of at least two lakhs of rupees be inserted.

"My hon. Friend, Sir Parasurama Patro, in his dissenting minute in the second paragraph said that the University should have a statutory grant. Even before my hon. Friend suggested that the Vice-Chancellor, the Finance Member and myself had a meeting at which it was settled that the University should receive a block grant of Rs. 2,30,000 for the next three years which may be subject to revision after the three years' period is over. But after consultation with my hon. Friend, the Finance Member, I felt that it would be better to give the University at least a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs as a statutory grant and leave the other Rs. 30,000 as a block grant which may be subject to revision at the end of three years. And I am glad to say my hon. Friend 1 p.m. the Finance Member has consented to this course being taken, subject to the vote of the House. That is the reason why this amendment is moved, and I hope the House will have no objection to accept this amendment."

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"I second it."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is :

'In line 4 after the word "sum" insert the words "of at least two lakhs of rupees".'"

The motion was put to the House and carried.

Clause 35 as amended was then put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 36.

Clause 36 was then put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clauses 37 *to* 40.

Clauses 37, 38, 39 and 40 were then consecutively put to the House, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 19.

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"I have given notice of an amendment, Sir, which I beg the leave of the House to read :

'*Insert the following as sub-clause* (*a*) *and re-letter the existing sub-clauses* (*a*) *and* (*b*) *of the Bill as sub-clauses* (*b*) *and* (*c*) :—

'*Between the figure* " 18 " *and the words* " *The Syndicate* " *insert the letter* (*a*)."

"The first portion is only an arrangement of the items of the clause. The second merely rearranges the section.

'*In sub-clause* (*b*) *as relettered, omit item* (*i*) *and substitute the following in its stead* :—

" *In clause* (2) for *the word* '*three*' substitute *the word* '*six*' *and at the end of clause* (2), *add the following words* :—

'*of whom three at least shall be teachers of affiliated colleges*'." '

"Hon. Members will notice that these are amendments to clause 19 of the Bill as reported by the Select Committee and also to the amendment given notice of by my hon. friend the Minister for Education. My amendments simply propose to the House to omit item (i), that is to say, the portion which seeks to qualify the representation of the Senate on the Syndicate by saying that 'three at least shall be teachers of affiliated colleges."

"Then with regard to item (ii). . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"My difficulty is how far this contravenes the vote of the House already given on this clause."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"I will make my submission on that point, Sir. The original amendment which was put to the House."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Items 41 and 44 on the list of amendments are practically the same as those now moved."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"My original amendment was to affect clause (3) by substituting the words 'Academic Council' for the words 'Council of Affiliated Colleges', and to add at the end the words 'of whom three shall be teachers of affiliated colleges.' That affected the proposed representation under clause (3) of the original Act which the Bill sought to amend. We find that the original Act itself provides for the representation of the Council of Affiliated Colleges also. I sought to affect that clause by increasing the number to six and then providing for the reserved representation of three teachers of affiliated colleges. . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The effect is more or less the same. The House cannot revise its own vote at the same stage. This amendment is materially the same. The motion need not be identical, but in effect it is the same."

Clause 19 (as amended) was then put to the House, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 22—class II—Other Members.

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I beg to move my amendment, Sir, which is to re-number item (6) as item (5). Mr. President, I only want to

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submit that this would not be a contravention of any previous decision of the House. This only makes the clause run properly. That is the reason why I move it."

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"I second it."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is: 'renumber item (6) as item (5).'"

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

Clause 22 as amended was then put to the House, passed and added to the Bill.

THE SCHEDULE.

Rule 1.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Sir, I move—

> '*That in lines* 1 *to* 3, *for the words* "*being later than . . . Act*", *the words* "*later than the* 31st *March* 19.0" *be substituted.*'

"If the amendment is made, the rule will then read thus—

> 'The Local Government shall fix a date, not later than the 31st March 1930 on which the term of office of members of the Senate, Syndicate and Academic Council holding office at the commencement of this Act shall expire.'

"That is intended, Sir, merely to allow the normal term of the present members of these various bodies to expire, after which the new Act may come into force. There are no such changes in this Bill as necessitate the termination in the middle of the term of office of these various members. That is the reason, Sir, why I beg leave to move this amendment."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"I second it, Sir."

*The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is: In lines 1 to 3, *for* the words 'being later than . . . Act' *substitute* the words 'later than the 31st March 1930'."

*The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I have no objection to accept this amendment, Sir."

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

Rule 2—*Proviso.*

*The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Sir, I move—

> '*in line* 2, *for the word* "*section*", *substitute the word* "*rule*".

"It is only a verbal amendment, Sir, and I move it."

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"I second it."

*The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is: In line 2, *for* the word 'section' *substitute* the word 'rule'."

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

*Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"Sir, I formally move that the following be added at the end as a new proviso—

> '*Provided however that the Syndicate may decide to have no election in the case fo vacancies that may last for less than three months.*'

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"This is only an enabling section, and in the case of one or two vacancies, it will be unnecessary because naturally we will require some time for issuing the rules, etc. I am only making this amendment to give some power to the Syndicate not to go on with the election if, in their opinion, it is unnecessary as it will clearly be in some instances."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"I second it."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is to add a new proviso as in the agenda."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I have no objection to accept this amendment, Sir."

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

Rule 4.

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Sir, I move—

'*that in line 4, for the word and figure "clause (1)" the word and figure "clause (2)" be substituted*'.

"This is only a mistake that was made in printing, and so I move that this amendment be made."

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"I second it."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is : In line 4, *for* the word and figure 'clause (1)', *substitute* the word and figure 'clause (2)'."

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

The schedule as amended was then put to the House, passed and added to the Bill.

Preamble.

The preamble was put to the House, passed and added to the Bill.

III

RESOLUTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The Council will now take up Resolutions."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"The hon. the Revenue Member to whose portfolio Resolution No. 802 relates, is not here, Sir, and with your permission I will call him."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"I shall just move my resolution, Sir, and then we may adjourn for lunch."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"What is the use of moving it when the hon. the Revenue Member is not here ?"

"The Council will now adjourn and re-assemble at 2-30 p.m."

After lunch (2-30 p.m.)

RESOLUTION *re* RECONSIDERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT ORDER ON THE REPORT OF THE METTUR PROJECT DEPUTATION.

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Sir, I move—

"*This Council recommends to the Government that G.O. No.* 2616 *I., dated* 19*th October* 1928, *on the report of the Mettur Project Deputation be reconsidered so far as the following matters are concerned and that—*

(1) *immediate orders be passed for arranging the supply of water for irrigation purposes in Coimbatore district and if not impossible in the districts of Salem and Trichinopoly as recommended by the deputation ;*

(2) *no more money be spent on buildings except in cases where it is absolutely necessary in view of the fact that the cost of the buildings is already very high and that they are all of a temporary nature ;*

(3) *no more money be spent on the road from Erode to Mettur in view of the new railroad being put up from Salem to Mettur ;*

(4) *no filtered water be used for construction purposes and that no more money be spent for this purpose either by way of buildings or otherwise ;*

(5) *all possible attempts be made to cut down the establishment charges at the top and no new offices be created thereafter ;*

(6) *no one employed in the firms supplying machinery or material to the Government be hereafter employed in the Government service ;*

(7) *house-rent be collected from all officers serving in connexion with the project for Government buildings used by them for residence ;*

(8) *the amenities of workmen suggested by the deputation be provided for at once and that arrangements be made to close all arrack and toddy shops at or near Mettur and that necessary establishments be provided to prevent illicit distillation ;*

(9) *the question of fixing water-rates in the Tanjore district and coming to an early understanding with the Tanjore ryots be taken up at once to avoid all possible difficulties in the future ;*

(10) *immediate steps be taken to set up an Advisory Committee of the Council to make occasional inspections and suggestions regarding desirable changes in the working of the scheme ;*

(11) *the question of using cement for the whole dam or for only portions of it be re-opened and carefully considered over again, and*

(12) *if the Government are not prepared to accept the suggestions of the report to a large extent, a committee of experts chiefly composed of retired Indian Public Works Department officers be appointed to go into all the questions raised in the report and in the resolution.*'

"This, Sir, is a question which has been dealt with on the floor of this House several times and it has been unfortunately the case that the opinions of the members of this House have not been cared for by the Government. As one of the small mercies, the Government appointed a committee to go into all the matters connected with this project and to make a report; and hopes were entertained that when that committee, a responsible committee composed of members from all parties and from all sides of this House, made its report, it would be carefully considered by the Government. But, unfortunately, Sir, we see from the Government Order that practically every recommendation of this deputation has been thrown to the winds, and only one small thing namely, reducing the rent from 6 per cent to 4 per cent, has been granted. I, representing the ryots of Coimbatore, am no doubt obliged to the Government at least for this small mercy. I am afraid, Sir, that members of this Council have not had much time to go through the papers carefully, but, in fact, my resolution gives practically all the recommendations made by the deputation. The first one and the most important thing, is the question of giving a small supply of water to the districts of Coimbatore, Salem and Trichinopoly. These three districts are entitled to the first claim, if for no other reasons, at least on account of the reason that they possess the riparian right, as the river flows through all the three districts. But, so far as Coimbatore and Salem are concerned, their claims are supreme. The river divides the two districts as a boundary, but what is more, a very large extent of cultivated and uncultivated lands in these districts have been taken away on account of this project and a large portion of the lands are to be submerged. People have been driven out of several villages in both these districts and they are wandering practically homeless and landless. Several requests were made to Government to help them by disafforestation and in ways various other ways but nothing tangible has been done so far, and we expect from the hon. Member in charge of the department—he had been in the Coimbatore district itself and knows the conditions of the district very well—that at least now he will do something to give some supply to the districts of Coimbatore and Salem, and to Trichinopoly also. It has been said over and over again that, so far as Coimbatore and Salem are concerned, it would be difficult for these districts to get water from this reservoir. But we have shown more than once from previous records and expert opinion, that the present expert opinion is not reasonable or warranted by fact. The reason why I have qualified my resolution a little so far as Salem and Trichinopoly are concerned is, that there is a little difference of opinion as to whether the water from the dam can be brought to the Salem district. The deputation clearly stated that, if there be any such difficulty, water can be given to Salem and to some extent to the Coimbatore district also by the anicut at Nerinjipet. The anicut at Nerinjipet is a very old one and, with a small sum of money, it can be repaired. The irresponsible way in which the Government deal with reports like that of the deputation will be seen from the fact that their order simply throws aside the recommendation in regard to the Nerinjipet project, because in the old nineteenth century there was one order recorded in 1887, namely, 'the Nerinjipet project will be excluded from all future lists of projects requiring investigation.' So that, once for all the Nerinjipet question was shelved and whatever may be the nature of the Government hereafter, that project shall not be considered. No further reasons are given. This order is dated 10th October 1887, more than 40 years ago. We think it is

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quite feasible to bring water to Salem, if not from the Mettur dam itself, at least from the Nerinjipet anicut. We may say, equitably also, the Trichinopoly district is entitled to have some water from the Mettur dam and we suggest this can easily be done by the Nerinjipet canal being extended a little to that district, so that it may have the benefit of this dam. That, Sir, is so far as one of the most important questions is concerned, namely, irrigation.

"Then, the other important question we have to deal with is concerning the whole Presidency as well as in the interests of future irrigation schemes. If one scheme becomes very costly to ryots, they are to be benefited in getting water from that project only by paying a large water-cess. If they have to pay enormous sums, it will have certainly a very bad effect as regards other irrigation projects. Our fear is that so far as this project is concerned, it is much more than a white elephant to the ryots or workmen of this country, but it is certainly a help to solve the unemployment question in the far-off England. One crore of rupees has to be spent on machinery, another crore has to be spent on cement, which though it may be manufactured here, goes practically to the benefit of English capitalists, so that two crores out of seven go in the initial stage to feed the Englishmen. The whole cost of the project was put at three crores about one and a half decades ago. And with every year, the estimates swell. In 1924–25 when this House gave general approval, as it were, to the scheme, the cement was never thought of, the cost was expected to be only about five and a half crores; in 1925 it came to six and to-day it is nearly seven and a half crores, and yet we are told authoritatively that we cannot say that the matter has ended, as the foundation levels have not yet been fixed up; so that I may prophesy—I am sure I may be a correct prophet in this respect—that before the completion of the work the cost will run to over ten crores.

"The deputation went into the question very carefully, visited both the dam as well as the canal system and have made several suggestions which can be expected to reduce the cost.

"But the Government have thrust aside the whole report saying that we are not experts, though the opinion of the experts is found to be wrong with regard to the site, with regard to the materials to be used, with regard to the height and with regard to everything. Expert opinion after expert opinion has been thrown away, and now we are told that we twelve people, including an expert retired engineer, their own trusted servant once and afterwards their own trusted Minister, that we do not know anything. We request any member of this House to go and see the place and I am sure he will return with tears of blood in his eyes when he realizes how our own men have been deprived of land and house and cannot get work even to support himself. 2-45 p.m.

"I will say only one thing in this connexion and that is the fourth clause of the resolution, viz., 'no filtered water be used for construction purposes and that no more money be spent for this purpose either by way of buildings or otherwise.' There is to be one big dam over one mile long and 200 feet deep and this, they say, should be built with filtered and even chlorinated water. We are told that some of the ordinary workmen will drink the ordinary Cauvery water and thus get cholera which may spread and even some of the Legislative Council members may be affected. Therefore, with a view to prevent all this they want to filter and chlorinate the water. And what does

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it cost? Some lakhs of rupees. After all will it be possible to make the workmen not to go to the Cauvery or not to drink Cauvery water? And, Sir, it is not the filteration charges only that we are complaining against. If the people living in the town of Mettur said that they too ought to be supplied with chlorinated water, we have no objection. And now, Sir, they say we want more money, some more lakhs, for this reserve of filtered water for the whole dam will involve more men and costly buildings. We know it will involve filtration tanks, filtration pipes, filtration tubes and what not. And we do not know whether the ryots would like to be charged simply for the purpose of preventing some Legislative Council member or other getting the disease. I am saying this to show how money is being wasted on all imaginary things. Why should not these people think of these things beforehand. Building was put up and after discarded, all this because somewhere malaria was prevailing.

"Then, Sir, I want to know why these high officers at Mettur should be free from the payment of house-rent. That is another thing which makes us think that somewhere things are going wrong.

"I shall now come to another important fact. At first there were no toddy or liquor shops. But the Government insist on toddy and arrack shops. The deputation included Messrs. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan and Sivaraj, who are expected to represent the labour interests, and our military officer over there from Salem—all these recommended unanimously that there should be no toddy or arrack shop there. But the Government said that if one is not established there will be illicit distillation of liquor. I am ashamed to hear this. Does it not speak volumes about the impotency of the Government? If a man wants to keep a shop he has to obtain a licence and yet we are told without a feeling of shame by this Government that they cannot prevent illicit distillation in this locality. I think the officers there merely fill their pockets with money and do nothing to promote the convenience, health and morality of the people of that locality. One of our recommendations was that these shops ought not to be opened. But the Government, without even postponing the sale, opened the shops, thereby showing what a great contempt they have got for the deputation.

"Then comes, Sir, the question of cement; and that has another sorry tale to tell. This project is fifty years old. Estimates after estimates were made and corrected. The highest authority in Calcutta and England gave their consent to the use of lime and yet in 1925, 1926 and 1927 the Chief Engineer all on a sudden for reasons best known to the Government said that they will have cement and that they will have costly machinery worth a crore of rupees to mix the cement. One of our recommendations again is that no one employed in the firm supplying the machinery or the materials should be appointed as an officer in the project. But yet there is such a gentleman, who is now the Superintending Engineer in charge of machinery. It was he who went to England more than once and is responsible for all this machinery. By the way, Sir, the servants of this company are to be given furnished houses. And three thousand rupees are to be spent on furniture! I am reliably informed that the Superintending Engineer was originally a representative of some firm. I do not say he will be dishonest. But what I mean is that his inclinations will be towards helping his own company by importing its

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machinery with the result that the whole work will depend on this machinery and if the machine goes out of order I do not know how much it will cost to get it repaired.

"May I know the time-limit, Sir?"

*The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"For the Mover of a Resolution, thirty minutes."

*Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"I was referring to the gentleman who was once a representative of the firm supplying machinery and who has been now raised to the position of Superintending Engineer and probably he now has become an indispensable person. The one reason for the adoption of machinery is that Government want to reduce the period of completion of the work. But as it is, it will take some months for the machinery to come; all its parts are yet to come; what is more the houses of these men are not yet furnished; we can't say how long it will take to fit up the machine and work it; none of us know the expenses for its repair if it goes out of order; and I do not know if there are any obliging friends like Mr. Natarajan (laughter) who will come and watch and oil this big machine in Mettur. It is impossible for me to conceive what makes Government stick to its programme already chalked out. Even supposing there will be a reduction of time according to that programme should they not consider that if they utilize human labour they will be feeding thousands and thousands of men now starving in India? The Government Order very cruelly says that we hon. Members are trying to uproot a tree to see if its roots are all right. We want to do nothing of the sort. We only want to do the whole thing a little cheaply. So the deputation suggested the use of cement for the middle and front of the dam, and the use of lime and chunam for the sides. So that if the machinery breaks or if the people in charge of the machinery strike work, work in other ways may go on; for as things stand if the machine stops the whole work must stop till the machine begins to work again. If the machinery does not work, there will be no mixing of cement and the grinding of the small pieces of stone. The Government will then say, our hon. Member will then say, 'What is to be done? The workmen have struck work and nothing can be done.' So, as a provision against it we say that we may go on partly with cement in the middle and partly with the putting up in sides of the boulders with the ordinary lime and chunam which has been approved till now and which we say is the usual method adopted in every other country excepting perhaps in the case of one or two engineering miracles existing somewhere. This question of cement is very important because we are afraid that in spite of all assurances that may be given to us by the experts on the Government side there may be difficulties in constructing the whole thing by means of the mixing of the cement, and if the whole building work is necessarily to be gone through by the mixing of the cement and the passing of the stone through this machinery, I think it will be very difficult. We saw the present machinery and the deputation knows how complicated it was, and we thought it was impossible for any machinery to do this work without some complications. Therefore we suggested the process mentioned in our report, but the Government says: 'Our experts are infallible; you people are fools so far as this matter is concerned, you transgress your powers when you begin to speak about this matter.' Above all these things we thought that the Government has some confidence in us and, shall I say, some respect for the

3 p.m.

members of this Council, because very often they come for our votes, very often they come for our money, and therefore we suggest that in order that there may be a check upon these experts, a committee of this House, elected by this House, may be asked to visit this place occasionally—we do not ask them to be there permanently—and make its remarks or recommendations. The Government may say that will be allowing us to uproot the tree which they are gradually rearing. They say : 'You are untouchables so far as this matter is concerned. You should not touch the tree.'

"These are the main recommendations of the deputation. There are some at least which the Government in good grace could have accepted easily. I do not know if the Government of India have given their approval to the scheme. Certainly the Secretary of State for India has not given his approval to the scheme. It is therefore desirable that the Government of India and the Secretary of State should be helped by this Government with their proper views, apart from the opinions of experts. Look at the modesty of my resolution. I am surprised at myself that I should in this resolution be so ultra-modest. I appeal to the Government to do this much : if you have absolutely no faith in us, if you have absolutely no regard for our opinions, if you have no regard for the Council, can you not do at least one thing ? Can you not appoint some of your own experts whom you once applauded to the skies, people who once were Superintending Engineers and even Chief Engineers ? By all means appoint a committee composed of such people. They have got a stake in the country. They have risen from the lowest to the highest positions. They probably worked in some parts of the Salem and Coimbatore districts, and they will certainly not say anything against what is considered to be orthodox expert opinion. They are not fools to go and give any opinion, if it is wrong, against expert opinion. The last thing I would urge is only this suggestion : if the Government are not prepared to accept the suggestions of the deputation to a large extent, a committee of experts chiefly composed of retired Indian Department of Public Works officers may be appointed to go into all the questions raised in the report and in this resolution. Can there be anything more modest ? If the Government refuse to-day to accept even that small recommendation of ours, I do not know what I shall say about the Government. But I hope, Sir, from all that I have known of the hon. Member in charge for the last eight years or so, that even he would recommend our suggestions to the Government and whatever regard he may have for the experts, I hope he will have some sympathy with us. On whatever points the Government may yield, he can also yield on behalf of the Government and as regards the points on which he may not see eye to eye with us, he may appoint experts of his own, getting pension from him at present, and ask them to examine and report on them. By experts I mean not men who come and go away to their own country, men who have no experience of Indian life, customs, etc., but experts who have lived in this country and who expect to live in the country, and who are responsible for the reputation and interest of this country. If such experts go into the matter and say that our recommendations are untenable, once for all our mouths will be closed. If the Government is sincere and earnest—I do not say, if the Government are honest—I would appeal to them to show it in action by appointing this committee. I heartily commend this resolution for the consideration of this House."

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Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—"Mr. President, Sir, while seconding this motion of Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar, I am not going to deal with the several somersaults that the Government have performed in connexion with this Mettur Project nor am I going to expose the several engineering inconsistencies that have been committed, and I do not think it will suit my present purpose to say anything about the irregularities in procedure and the inadequate investigation that has been made before the project has been commenced. I am only going to make a few observations upon the other aspects of the question and particularly with reference to the several paragraphs or the several clauses of the resolution. I will here and there show how unsympathetic the Government has been to the most innocent recommendations that have been made by this Committee. Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar in his characteristic way has put the resolution in a long and winding form, but he could have done it in a much more brief manner. But this resolution has got in itself the virtue of having brought out all the salient features on which the report has been drafted. When the deputation was appointed by this Council, all of us thanked the hon. the Revenue Member who at the time was in charge of the Irrigation portfolio for having allowed an opportunity to this Council, or to some Members of this Council, to examine the several aspects that are connected with this Mettur Project and we expected that our labours would be properly viewed and appreciated, but the Government Order that has been issued upon this particular report is most disappointing if not discouraging. Although limitations were placed on our activities, that we should not go into the technical details of the scheme, yet we could not resist the temptation of pointing out certain of the inaccuracies that we were able to find out while going through the several reports and several papers placed before the Committee. In this particular order every paragraph has been categorically replied to, but the replies are as a matter of fact nil except to one or two. It has been pointed out by the Government that they are going to take some interest by way of removing the Collector and looking into the interests of the tenants who have already given up their lands for the Mettur Project. But as regards the other questions, they have shown utter lack of interest and we are sorry to find that there has been a deplorable discouragement evidenced in this final order of the Government. They have stated at page 63 of their order as follows: 'The Government observe that either it will be profitable for the ryots to take water at the prescribed rates or it will not. If it will be profitable, the ryots will certainly take the water and the Government then will have statutory authority under the Madras Irrigation Cess Act VII of 1865 to levy and collect the prescribed rate of water-cess.' This, I think, Sir, is placing the cart before the horse. They have not made a proper investigation as regards the desire of the ryots to take water at the rates now proposed under this scheme. They have immensely increased the water-rate by manipulating figures and put forward a case for the early undertaking of this work. But our own enquiries have proved that the Government have unnecessarily hurried on with the work without noticing the several defects that lay behind the whole scheme, and without understanding the possibilities of the success of the scheme. They have pointed out again at page 62 that the cost of establishment is only 8 per cent of the cost of the works. The work is done only in a limited locality, and yet we find a number of officers whose services

can easily be dispensed with. We also found that there are more supervising officers than real workers, because we see there is the Chief Engineer, the Superintending Engineer, several Executive Engineers and several more sub-divisional officers. This is only placing one officer for supervising over the other, and this work of supervision seems to be more in evidence than the actual work of construction that is going on. In regard to this matter all the members of the deputation have found that the cost of establishment is already very high, and proper measures must be taken for decreasing the cost of the establishment, so that the 8 per cent may be reduced. Just before the Government paid a compliment to the members of the deputation, they have made a very significant remark on page 64 of the Government
3-15 p.m. Order: 'The Government consider that no useful purpose will be achieved but considerable risk of loss incurred if there is a constant uprooting either by Government or by non-official committees of the tree to see how it is growing.' This is, Sir, in connexion with the proposal to have a standing committee of this Council to be enquiring into the progress of these works. It is a very unhappy compliment paid by the Government to the members of the deputation. It has not been the intention of the members of the deputation or of this Council that has approved of the deputation to meddle with the growing tree. Their idea has been to see whether the roots of the tree have been eaten away, whether there has been an excess of expenditure over the necessities of the case, whether it was not possible to show to the Government how the expenditure that has been incurred might be reduced to a great extent—that was the main idea with which the deputation set to work. It was not at all to obstruct the progress of the Mettur Project, but to see that the tree which was planted by this Government was properly progressing and capable of proving beneficial to the large number of ryots which it is intended to benefit. I find, Sir, that the whole matter is going to be shelved, and the words that have been expressed in the Government Order attached to this report are very discouraging. This Council is responsible for the finances of the province, for the proper spending of the provincial funds, and we do feel that it is a duty imposed upon us to press for this resolution and for the proper carrying out of the works now undertaken by Government."

* Rao Bahadur S. ELLAPPA CHETTIYAR: "Sir, I beg to move the following amendment:—

'In clause (1) of Resolution No. 802 *insert* the words "Salem and Trichinopoly" between "Coimbatore" and "district", and *substitute* "districts" for "district" and *omit* all the words beginning with "and if . . . by the deputation".'

"The amended motion will run as follows: 'immediate orders be passed for arranging the supply of water for irrigation purposes in Coimbatore, Salem and Trichinopoly districts'

"I wish to say a few words in support of my amendment. In the first instance I should thank the hon. Members of the Mettur Project Deputation for the unanimous opinion that they have expressed regarding the feasibility and necessity of taking water to all these three districts. The hon. Member representing Tanjore, Mr. Muthiah Mudaliyar, has also expressed that the people of Tanjore have no objection to the taking of water from Mettur reservoir to the other districts, such as Salem and Coimbatore. Coimbatore

and Trichinopoly have got some hope through some other schemes, such as Bhavani Project for Coimbatore and Kattalai Project for Trichinopoly district, but for Salem there is no such scheme in the near future. Salem has to depend solely upon this Mettur reservoir scheme. Otherwise, there is no salvation for this poor district. Mettur dam is constructed within the limits of the Salem district. Vast lands have been acquired and many villagers have been sent away from their houses, who have gladly consented to give up their lands in the hope that they will be given water for irrigation from this reservoir. I am glad to note that in the Government Order recently issued Government have realized the importance of supplying water to the Salem district also. But if they take up the work of acquiring lands and excavating channels now, it will take some years. So, they could go on with this work in the Salem district first. I think that will not in any way hinder the progress of the Mettur dam project. With these few remarks I move my amendment."

Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai :—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second this amendment. The amendment seeks to place the recommendation in more unequivocal terms. The resolution seeks to place Salem and Trichinopoly on the same footing as Coimbatore. Sir, I shall not go over all the various questions referred to in the resolution, but shall confine myself to the amendment. The Mettur scheme, as originally designed, sought to locate all the irrigated area in one district, namely, Tanjore district. All along there has been a feeling that that was unjust and that the irrigated ayacut should be distributed between Coimbatore, Salem and Trichinopoly; and this amendment seeks to place the matter in clearer and unambiguous terms.

"I shall try to remove some misapprehensions and illusions prevalent with respect to this question. The Mover of the amendment said that Trichinopoly might hope for something in the future on account of the Kattalai scheme. I am afraid, Sir, that here is a misapprehension. The Kattalai scheme, it will be admitted, does not seek to give a new irrigation or a new ayacut either under the Mettur scheme or under any other scheme. On account of the damages caused by the floods of 1924 and on account of the heavy expenditure which the Government have been incurring on the korambu system, the Government thought it necessary and productive to invest some money on the excavation of one canal and on an anicut to ensure regular supply of water to the existing channels. Therefore, it cannot be said as an argument against conceding the claims of Trichinopoly that they could hope for something in the Kattalai scheme. It is only the guaranteeing of the existing supply through the existing channels.

"I shall also refer to another misapprehension which seems to have prevailed among the members of the deputation. While I am thankful to the members of the deputation for their realization of the claims of Trichinopoly, it is a pity that the case of Trichinopoly has not been examined as fully as it might have been and ought to have been. In 1924, when this subject came before this Council, the iniquity of the original system was recognized and the then Law Member said that he would try to reallot the portion to be irrigated, and for that purpose he was pleased to appoint the Mettur Committee. That Committee recommended that at least 50,000 new acres should be irrigated in Trichinopoly under the Mettur scheme. The question was

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examined by the Chief Engineer. The Chief Engineer was pleased to observe that, while in the case of Salem and Coimbatore there were engineering difficulties, there was absolutely no such difficulty in the case of Trichinopoly. Not only that, but the financial aspects also were much better. While the scheme wanted only Rs. 15 per acre in the case of Tanjore, i.e., if the whole area were located in Tanjore alone, it required Rs. 16 if this extension of irrigation was to be given to Trichinopoly; and this Rs. 16 the tax-payers of Trichinopoly were willing to pay.

"Now, Sir, if we refer to the report of the Chief Engineer, I believe there is an apparent mistake, and I submit that even the Rs. 16 would not be the rate if a proper computation were made. The Chief Engineer said that the net cost of the scheme of irrigating 50,000 acres will be 42 lakhs and in dividing the return on this amount he said that Rs. 16 would have to be realized from each acre in the Trichinopoly district. That 42 lakhs was arrived at by including a sum of 25 lakhs which was to be debited to the anicut across the Kattalai. So, the calculation went wrong on that basis. If there was to be a Kattalai scheme, if there was to be a Kattalai anicut, it was wrong to debit that sum of 25 lakhs necessary for the anicut as against the Mettur scheme. Therefore, if we take the figures given by the Chief Engineer, the real net cost that should be debited to the scheme would be 42 minus 25 lakhs. Therefore, the rate, so far as Trichinopoly is concerned, would be far less than Rs. 15. I submit that in the case of Trichinopoly there is no difficulty whatever, neither engineering nor financial. It would be the most productive scheme, and there have been expert opinions expressed that the Trichinopoly scheme was much better than the Pattukkottai scheme. Now, Sir, I am not going to traverse all those regions. In trying to claim for Trichinopoly its equitable share, I would only press this on Government to reconsider that portion of their order relating to this district. They seem to have felt that it is really unjust to have excluded Trichinopoly and in page 61, paragraph (2) (i) of the order, they say 'it may be practicable to achieve this object by extending the area at present irrigated through the existing open head channels taking off from the Cauvery on either side.'

3-30 p.m. "I submit that the investigation of the question need not be confined to this narrow issue. They may examine the question whether it is possible to irrigate an extent of 50,000 or more acres through the extension of the existing open-head channels and also through opening new channels, say, at Kattlai or at some other place to the east of it. The deputation has suggested another channel from Nerinchipettai. This also may be examined. As it is, the Government Order seems to exclude the investigation of such questions. As a matter of fact, the investigation of the question of irrigating through these new channels is not a new thing. Already, in 1908 and 1910 these questions have been investigated, considered and conclusions arrived at to the effect that irrigation so extended would be beneficial and productive. Therefore, while we have before our minds this report, it will be unjust to Trichinopoly to exclude the consideration of these proposals. The Mover of the resolution has travelled over a wide range of subjects, but mine is a humble lot. I am not here quarrelling with the huge waste of cement or machinery. (Cries of: 'Why not'?). (The hon. the President: 'Order, order.') My only request to the Government is to see that the injustice which they have admitted is redressed.

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And, in redressing that injustice, I request them not to confine their investigation to the consideration of extension through the open-head channels alone. I request them to carry out their idea of giving a concession to Trichinopoly by any means. Let them not be scared away even if it becomes necessary to cut new channels in order to extend the irrigation facilities in Trichinopoly.

"There is always the illusion that Trichinopoly has any number of irrigation works as compared with Tanjore. The truth is that it has not got even one-tenth of what Tanjore has got. Its irrigable area is not even 3 per cent of the total extent of irrigation in that district. Having 73 miles of the Cauvery running through our district, we are not allowed to have its benefit to the extent to which we are entitled. We feel that once we let this opportunity slip, we shall have no such chance hereafter. It is a question of now or never. That is our condition. Therefore hon. Members will be pleased to accept this amendment and see that Trichinopoly gets its fair share by any means, either through open-head channels or through new channels taking off at Kattalai. This alone will extend irrigation in the Trichinopoly and Kulittalai taluks."

*Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar :—"Mr. President, Sir, while I accord my hearty support to many of the recommendations contained in this comprehensive resolution moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar, I feel that the recommendation embodied in clause (1) that immediate orders be passed for arranging the supply of water for irrigation purposes in Coimbatore district and, if not impossible, in the districts of Salem and Trichinopoly, as recommended by the deputation, is premature and requires a good deal of examination before any decision can be arrived at.

"I quite sympathise with the hon. Mover's object, but at the same time I have to invite the attention of this House to the fact which has been recognized ever since the inception of this scheme that its primary object is to improve and protect the irrigation of the existing delta. It is therefore but meet that my hon. Friend and Colleague Mr. C. Marudavanam Pillai should have laid special stress in his note of dissent to the report of the Mettur deputation that 'this project owed its origin from the very outset to the need which the Government and the ryots have felt for generations for stabilizing supply of water to the deltaic tracts of the district of Tanjore under cultivation, and rendering that valuable and revenue-yielding area free from the uncertainties and risks of unseasonable floods and the irregularities and unexpected shortages of supply when water is needed most.' The total land revenue which the Tanjore ryots have paid to the Government in fasli 1336 is roughly 78 lakhs, the largest contributed by any district or extent of cultivated land in this Presidency. The construction of a reservoir, therefore, for stabilizing and assuring the supply of water for irrigation in the district of Tanjore is not only a legitimate but a primary charge on the revenues of this province. Besides, the area newly proposed to be brought under cultivation in the Tanjore district is one which will largely benefit a backward community, and times without number we have been assured that this is one of the ways in which the reclamation of the Kallar community is proposed to be brought about. It is in this view, therefore, that special stress has so often been laid both by the people of the district concerned and by the press on the fact that this project is more a protective than a productive one and that revenue considerations alone should not weigh with the Government. In this

sense, the importance of the recommendation embodied in clause (9) of this resolution becomes apparent and I would suggest to the Government the desirability of making further enquiries in the matter before finally adopting any rates to suit their estimates.

"I am very much surprised that this very reasonable suggestion which weighed with my hon. Friend Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar in regard to the Tanjore district should have been clean forgotten by him when he dealt with the other districts. He has already expressed in this Council that the ryots of Coimbatore would be willing to pay any rates that the Government might fix for the irrigation facilities they might give them. In this connexion I would suggest that it will not be wrong to say that the necessity of coming to an early understanding with the ryots of the other districts with a view to avoid possible difficulties in the future is equally important. But, before that matter can be taken into consideration, the question whether the supply of water is possible or feasible has to be gone into. The Government, in their order on the report of the Mettur deputation, say: 'The question whether some land in Coimbatore and Salem districts could be irrigated by channels taking off from the Mettur reservoir has already been considered and the Government on the advice of the Chief Engineer abandoned the idea on engineering and financial grounds. The Government, however, have always held the view that these districts should be served to some extent by the Mettur scheme if this could be done at a rate that would pay for the cost and was not so high as to make realization doubtful or difficult. It seems to the Government that it may be practicable to achieve this object by extending the area at present irrigated through the existing open-head channels taking off from the Cauvery on either side. It may be possible to let in more water into these channels and thus extend irrigation at a cost that would not be prohibitive. The question will be remitted to the Engineer-in-Chief for early investigation and report.' Before therefore immediate orders can be passed for arranging the supply of water to these districts, the Government have to await the report of the Engineer-in-Chief as to the feasibility of the proposal. And, when the Chief Engineer's report is received, it will be time enough to consider, if his report is in favour of the possibility of the supply of water to other districts, the actual cost that will have to be incurred for this additional supply and the rates that will have to be levied. It is then and only then that it will be possible to come to an understanding with the ryots of those districts as to the rates. In this view, therefore, I consider, as I have already said, that the recommendation contained in clause (i) is premature. I need hardly say that the other recommendations embodied in this resolution have my full support."

* Mr. C. Marudavanam Pillai :—"Mr. President, Sir, as I represent the district which this scheme is intended to benefit, I would be failing in my duty if I do not express my views and impressions gained by visiting the headquarters of this project. Generally, I endorse the views contained in the report, but I take exception to the views given expression to by my hon. Friend Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar and also by my hon. Friends from Trichinopoly and Salem. I request not to be misunderstood. It should not be thought that the people of my district are jealous of, and do not want to give water to, the districts of Trichinopoly, Salem and Coimbatore. As has been clearly stated in the report, if the scheme could be so modified, without any detriment to the lower riparian rights of the Tanjore ryots to water,

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water may be allowed to Salem, Coimbatore and Trichinopoly; because it is not a thing which is not known to the Government or to the public that Tanjore is paying a land revenue of 76 lakhs of rupees to the Government. The Government is bound to maintain irrigation works and also the necessary irrigation facilities for the district which is paying the largest revenue. As has been pointed out by previous speakers, the scheme was originally intended to conserve the existing irrigation in Tanjore and also if possible to provide extension of irrigation to other areas. Therefore even now if the Government refer this scheme to a deputation of experts and find it possible to modify as to benefit other districts also, certainly Tanjore people will have no objection to it. As the scheme at present stands, it is purely a scheme intended for irrigating the large unirrigated area of Tanjore and also to stabilize the existing irrigation of Tanjore. My submission is that the interests of landholders as well as the interests of landowners of those lands which this scheme is going to benefit should not be interfered with by diverting water to any other place. As a layman, during my visit to that Mettur Project, it struck me that it was an extravagant and wasteful expenditure on the part of the Government to spend moneys under the heads of establishments, communications and so on. Certainly, if the Government had any means of reducing the expenditure they might have done so in the interests of the tax-payer. I also suggest that by cutting down the charges on establishment and other items the savings effected might be utilized for the reduction of rates which are going to be levied for the areas to be irrigated by this new scheme. I appeal to the Government to find out ways and means to reduce the extravagant expenditure so that such a reduction might go to the benefit of tax-payers. 3-45 p.m.

"So far as other points which find a place in the resolution are concerned, I do not approve of them. I do not agree that the scheme should be suspended till the revised estimate is sanctioned, because Tanjore is already longing for the project and it is but just and fair on the part of this Government not to defer the scheme but to see that it is completed at as early a date as possible.

"With these few words, I support generally the principle of this resolution."

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM:—"In rising to support this resolution, I wish to make only a few remarks. In the order of the Government on the report of the Mettur deputation the Government say 'The object of the Government is not to invite criticism on professional details.' The criticism that has been offered by the hon. Members of the deputation as regards the question of substituting surki mortar for cement has been brushed aside as a criticism of the professional details of the scheme. When it is to be considered whether a fabric is to be built of granite or brick it is not a professional detail. It is one of the fundamentals of the scheme. That deputation has come to the conclusion that at least a part of the dam should be built in surki mortar instead of cement. This cannot be brushed aside simply as a professional detail with which the deputation has nothing to do.

"Then, the last request in the resolution is that, if the Government are not prepared to accept the suggestions of the report to a large extent, a committee should be appointed to go into the question. This is only a moderate proposal. Still there are experts who think that a colossal mistake is being made

in building the whole dam with cement. That question was not disposed of by the Government of India. The report that was supplied dealt with only one portion of the question. But the question of using mortar still remains to be disposed of. Therefore, Sir, the request that mortar may be used for the whole dam or at least for a portion of it is a legitimate request.

"Another important point is that machinery to the extent of one crore of rupees is being sent for. The deputation says that all the agriculturists are suffering from famine conditions and skilled and unskilled labour should be utilized in the place of labour-saving machinery."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"On what clause is the hon. Member speaking?"

*Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM:—"On the point raised by the deputation in their report."

*The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I may point out to the hon. Member that it is not the report of the deputation that we are dealing with now. It is the resolution of Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar that is under consideration."

*Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM:—"I shall restrict myself to that.

"The third point I wish to refer to is the employment of a young Belgian gentleman named Bellefontaine, who is drawing a salary of Rs. 750. After all he is a pure marine mechanic, an ordinary mill coolie and he is to be given £60 per mensem or £720 per annum, a thing unheard of in the annals of the distribution of salaries. After all he has been connected with a machine-manufacturing company and he underwent a course of education only for five years in Belgium. Such a man to be given so high a salary is a thing which I condemn. The excuse given by the Government for the importation of this gentleman is that they are going to import heavy and costly machinery, that it would be very difficult to train men here to use that machinery and that therefore they had to bring this man from Belgium. I submit that no time should be lost in seeing that this gentleman's services are dispensed with. Drilling machines require no training at all. Anybody could sit and work on it. Several machines have been used for agricultural operations by the Development Department which are a misnomer for pumping and boring operations, and several of our countrymen have had training in pumping and boring work. So to import this Belgian gentleman at such a high salary is, I consider, an extravagant and slanderous waste of public money.

"Sir, we hear that in building this dam they are using filtered water. Human wants are many and where there is a bad supply of water we require filtered water. But dam is not a human being, it will not be affected with epidemic if unfiltered water is used. I know that several buildings have been built by using unfiltered water. So there is no necessity at all to use filtered water at such a high cost."

*The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I request the hon. Member Mr. Ellappa Chettiyar not to use the Council Hall as a room for reading newspapers."

*Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM:—"I raise also my voice in support of the people of Salem. Salem has been considered to be suffering from want of water for irrigation purposes. The Mettur dam is to be built between the boundaries

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of Salem and Coimbatore. In Nerinjapet there is a ruined anicut and if that is revived it will give some water to the people of Salem. We always see a number of people migrating from Salem district to other districts and if we ask them what is the reason for their migration, they say 'we have no water facilities there'. If there is any district which really needs water it is Salem district. The Mettur Project is being built to give irrigation facilities to the Tanjore district, but at the same time it is also necessary that a few taluks of Salem district should be supplied with water because they are the people whose lands are acquired and it is their villages that are going to be submerged in water. It is therefore necessary that people who make the first sacrifice should have the benefit also of the undertaking. To say that water cannot be taken from a lower level to a higher level cannot hold water. Water can be taken from a lower level to a higher level. As one connected with Periyar system, I know water is taken from a lower level to a higher level by construction of suitable sluices. So it is not an extraordinary thing for the Engineering department to take water to a higher place in the Salem district.

"Then the Government say no useful purpose will be served by uprooting the tree by going and visiting the tree very often. Sir, it is very easy to indulge in allegories and similes. What the deputation wants is not to uproot the tree but to see how the tree is growing, whether the leaves are falling and whether there is foliage at the top. The hon. the Secretary says that the sending of a deputation is uprooting the tree. We are also businessmen and we want to see whether the watchman is taking care about the tree and not uprooting the tree. Therefore to say that by going and visiting the Mettur Project you will be uprooting the tree is a thing which cannot hold water. The object of such visits is to see that money is not wasted, that the subordinates there are not paid such high salaries to simply sit under the cool breeze of the punkah. . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member will kindly bring his remarks to a close."

* Mr L. K. TULASIRAM :—"With these remarks I support the proposition and say that a committee ought to be appointed and must be given the permission to make occasional visits to the Mettur Project so that they may make their criticisms in this House."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—"In rising to support the amendment as well as the proposition which have been moved, I wish to place a few facts before this House. So far as the river Cauvery is concerned, it is running not only through Tanjore, but also through the districts of Salem, Coimbatore and Trichinopoly. We have to bear the burden of the river as well as the dangers from its overflow through our district. In fact, in the year 1924 we bore the brunt of the heavy flood that came along the river and Trichinopoly has suffered a loss of nearly 10,000 acres of its wet lands.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai, has already told you that of 70,000 acres of wet lands in our district we lost about 10,000 acres on account of the floods. It is but fair and just that we should be given a share of the benefits of the project. The hon. Member from Tanjore said that if 4 p.m.

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they were not touched he had no objection to Coimbatore, Salem and Trichinopoly having a portion of the Mettur water. I do not know what he meant. But if he has no objection to these districts also sharing the benefits of the project, then it can only be done by the Tanjore district foregoing a little bit of the benefits they are going to derive from the project. The present proposal is to irrigate three lakhs of acres in the Pattukottai taluk. It is well known that all these lands are at present dry lands and the proposal is to make the same absolutely wet. On the contrary, the original Mettur scheme proposed to take the new channel not along the Grand Anicut but across Kulittalai and Trichinopoly taluks of the Trichinopoly district which would have benefited about a lakh of acres in that district. Already, there are about 50,000 acres of wet lands in those two taluks and the present proposal is to take an off-take from this river and make them receive the benefits of the Mettur scheme also. I may say here that this may not necessarily be at the cost of Tanjore; for we are already well provided with a network of tanks. It is a well-known fact that the floods in the Cauvery come a little too early and waste themselves into the sea. If only the engineering authorities take care to fill these tanks in time, I am quite sure that we will not be depriving the people of Tanjore of any of the benefits that they hope to derive under the present scheme. But even if they should happen to lose a little bit, they should not grudge; for after all Salem, Coimbatore and Trichinopoly have as good riparian rights in the river Cauvery as Tanjore itself. I would even go further and say that these districts, being higher up the river, have a better riparian right in the river than Tanjore which is at the tail end of the river. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ellappa Chettiyar, said that, while there was a prospect of Coimbatore and Trichinopoly getting the benefits of other schemes, there was none whatever for Salem. I quite sympathise with the people of Salem, but I should say that we stand to gain nothing by any other scheme. We are not going to gain anything new by the Kattalai scheme which only goes to safeguard the interests of the existing ayacuts but not for increasing the irrigated areas. We are in the same boat as Salem and Coimbatore, not a bit better than they. We ask nothing more than bare justice to be done to us when we ask that out of three lakhs of acres proposed to be irrigated by the new project a few thousands may be given to us, say 40 or 50 thousand acres. All these 40 or 50 thousand acres are, as I said before already, wet, most of them. The preliminary work of converting the dry lands into wet ones is not necessary here. The ryots are already there. Whereas in Tanjore they have to colonise the area anew for the purpose of converting the dry area into wet. That is a great problem and it remains to be seen whether it will succeed. Government have taken so many things for granted in arriving at conclusions regarding the productivity of the project. No such presumptions exist in the case of Trichinopoly as in the case of the other districts. We have got wet lands already there. We have told Government that we are not only prepared to pay the new rate of Rs. 15 or 20 or whatever it may be, but also contribute to the capital expenditure of the scheme if it is deemed necessary. There is absolutely no difficulty so far as the extension of the benefits to these districts is concerned."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is requested to bring his remarks to a close soon."

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Khan Bahadur P. KHALIFULLAH SAHIB Bahadur :—" So far as Trichinopoly district is concerned, engineering experts have told us that there are absolutely no engineering difficulties. Therefore, taking into consideration the fact that there is no engineering difficulty and that we are ready to pay any rate and contribute to the capital cost of the concern, it is but for bare justice that we are crying for, when we ask Government to re-investigate the question if necessary and sanction the extension to our district."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, it is not without a feeling almost akin to despair that I rise to support this resolution. This question has been discussed again and again on the floor of the House; but so far, I am afraid that we have received little satisfaction. But before proceeding further, may I thank the hon. the Revenue Member for giving us an opportunity of discussing this question and I hope that this time it will be more fruitful than on previous occasions.

" The Mettur Project has been sanctioned as a productive scheme; but before I refer to the details of the scheme mentioned in the resolution now before the House I shall refer to a few points which make it almost certain that this project is not going to satisfy the requirements of a productive public work. Apart from what is certainly the expenditure on the work itself which will increase considerably before they are done with it, I should like to point out that Government does not seem so far to have considered the effect of the execution of the Mettur scheme on the present irrigation in Tanjore. The project has for its main object the substitution of continuous flow for what I may call intermittent flow in the river. The substitution of continuous flow for an intermittent flow is obtained by the storage of flood-water and limitation of maximum discharges in the rivers in Tanjore. The immediate result will be a very considerable reduction in flood supplies. When the flood supplies become reduced, although the supply in seasons of low water are increased, it is certain that on account of this reduction of flood supplies the lands that now depend for their irrigation on the drainage rivers would considerably suffer; and unless Government take steps at once to carry out the necessary work to prevent loss to those who will suffer on account of the substitution of continuous for intermittent supply, the result I expect will almost be disastrous and, instead of the project proving, as I hope the Government want it to prove, a blessing to the ryots of Tanjore, it will almost come as a curse to certain portions of the delta. The point that I wish to mention is this, that before long Government would be forced to undertake works for what I may call the remodelling of the rivers and distributory systems in Tanjore. What the cost of this is going to be we have no idea at all. And is Government going to include the cost of the necessary alterations in those works in the capital cost of the Mettur Project or is it going to be charged to the capital cost of the delta system? This is a thing about which we know nothing at present. The whole of the expenditure on the Mettur works now consists of works which are almost outside the delta. The first effects of the construction of the Mettur reservoir will be disadvantageous to the delta in some respects. It is only fair that Government should follow the principle of capitalizing the costs of the consequential alterations in the rivers and distributary systems in Tanjore on account of the construction of the Mettur Project and debit it to the capital cost of the

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Mettur Project itself. What this capital cost will be is not known now. But certainly it is not going to make the project a productive work.

"I shall now come to the Mettur Project itself. The Committee has gone carefully into all the points that are before the House in this resolution. I shall deal first with the question of the extra cost on account of certain alterations that have been made. About the alteration of the site of the dam, when the first proposal for this was put forward it was stated that the alteration was necessitated by the floods of 1924. It was explained that at the original site of the dam it was impossible to dispose of the floods of 1924 and that the new site proposed presented facilities for the disposal of the surplus both on the right and the left banks. It was stated that the Ellis Saddle was incapable of disposing of the floods of 1924 and that the new site would be able to dispose of even larger floods than those of 1924. But what has happened? The site has been changed; we hear nothing about the new surplus arrangements at all which were supposed to be under consideration on the right bank of the river. The floods of 1924 are now proposed to be disposed of through the Ellis Saddle alone. We now see how the decision for the alteration of the site of the dam costing so much extra expenditure was taken with undue haste and without that detailed examination and investigation that the importance of the matter demanded.

4-15 p.m. "I refer to this point to illustrate what the committee has been trying to place before the Government, namely, that these alterations that have been made in the Mettur Project and have caused considerable excess in the total estimate have been rather hastily taken up without due consideration and careful examination that a project of this nature demands. I do not wish to say much on the question of cement *versus* lime as it has been sufficiently discussed on the floor of this House. Considering the haste with which the Government have been going on with the construction of the foundations of the dam at the new site, although I recognize that it will not be possible to go back to lime mortar alone, we have not been placed in possession of convincing facts to prove that it is indispensable that cement should be used. The objections raised against surki mortar were answered and it was proved that the dam could be safely constructed with surki mortar. This point was considered when Colonel Ellis was in charge of the project, and his proposals supported by Sir Hugh Keeling were accepted and the estimates sanctioned by Mr. St. John Gebbie, who succeeded Sir John Benton. We are now getting a new set of experts who have stated that lime mortar is useless and that it is necessary that cement mortar alone should be used. What were the reasons that were given for indispensability of cement mortar? Apart from the question of its suitability it was stated that it was going to result in considerable increase of revenue during the years of construction. It was expected that the period of construction would be shortened and, in consequence, a considerable amount of extra revenue would accrue to the Government during the construction period. Although I see no reference specifically in the printed papers that have been supplied to us, I presume that the Revenue Department have not been able to agree to shortening the period for the extension of irrigation. By accelerating the construction of the dam, if your irrigation does not expand equally fast, the result would be that, while the cost of the scheme would go up, the large revenue that was anticipated would not be realized while interest charges will go up. We hear nothing about

increased revenue; the cost of the scheme only has been increasing. I take it that the Revenue Department are not going to accept an accelerated expansion of irrigation. It is for these reasons that the Committee expressed its dissatisfaction with the most recent decisions of the Government.

"Concerning the question of irrigation facilities to Salem and Coimbatore, this has also been discussed on the floor of this House. We have been told that experts have prepared estimates and have found that the cost of carrying water to Salem and Coimbatore is so prohibitive that it is impossible to do so. I have some knowledge of what exactly happened. Estimates were prepared not within recent times but 25 years ago. Estimates were prepared by the late Mr. Moss. His proposals were intended to irrigate somewhere about 25,000 acres in Salem and Coimbatore; but the funniest part of it was that, while irrigation was only to a limited extent, the channels themselves commanded something like 200,000 acres. Obviously, if more careful estimates are prepared and if the Government send out really their experts to prepare the estimates on modern lines, they would have found that the cost would be quite reasonable. If the Government are able to give water to a reasonable area, I say that the cost of the new schemes would be found to be quite reasonable.

"In the Government Order that was published as a result of the recommendations of the deputation the Government state that they are prepared to consider the feasibility of extending irrigation from the Corambu channels. I feel sure that the districts of Salem and Coimbatore should get some share of the Mettur water. I would urge on the hon. the Revenue Member the necessity for insisting upon his experts preparing reliable estimates; because, as I see, what has been done was that they took up the estimates of 1903 which I know were incorrectly prepared and have simply estimated the cost with reference to the current rates. Therefore, I consider those estimates as quite unreliable; and, in view of the volume of feeling in this House and in the country that a larger share should be given out of the Mettur water for irrigation in Salem, Coimbatore and Trichinopoly districts, I think it is my duty to inform the Government that this question must be examined carefully. I therefore have very much pleasure in supporting this resolution."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"Mr. President, Sir, I shall confine my attention at present with regard to one question in which I am deeply interested, viz., the distribution of water of the Mettur reservoir for irrigation in the various districts of the Presidency. The policy of the Government with regard to the distribution of water is so unwise and so impolitic that we find that the crying of the Members in this Council for a better policy has been a cry in the wilderness. The Government seem to be obsessed with the idea of the productive (or otherwise) nature of irrigation schemes, and every project is tested purely on those lines with the result that a good deal of injustice is being done to districts which are really entitled to the distribution of a share of the water. Sir, from a selfish point of view, I am not interested either in Coimbatore, Salem or Trichinopoly; but on higher policy I feel strongly that, when a river runs through various districts, the distribution of that water ought to be equitable and fair to the various districts that are concerned. I can understand the position of Tanjore if they say that they are prepared to pay not only the present charge, that is the usual rate so much per acre, but

every additional pie that they earn by this new irrigation facility, so that the country is not in any way the loser."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am afraid the hon. Member will have to confine himself to the terms of the resolution."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" I am justified in asking the Government to give water to Coimbatore, Salem and Trichinopoly from a point of view which requires some elaboration."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am afraid it is outside the scope of this resolution, however interesting the point may be."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" The Government are wrong in insisting not to give water to Trichinopoly, Salem and Coimbatore mainly because it does not pay. No doubt, in their Government Order they say that there are some engineering difficulties ; there are no such difficulties which cannot be easily overcome. The only question with them seems to be is whether it will pay Government to give water to Salem, Coimbatore and Trichinopoly districts. If the Government look at this question from a wider and general point of view, viz., the amount of wealth that is going to be added to the country by means of irrigation projects, it is my firm conviction that most of the projects that are given up as unremunerative are really productive ones from the point of view of the country. I hope the Government would look at this aspect of the question before they consider a scheme as productive or unproductive. I am certain that the Mettur project will be productive from this point of view, whatever may be the point of view of the Government. Relying on the basis that the scheme is productive, we have to consider how far the Government are justified in denying water to those districts. I can understand Government giving water to Tanjore for the present ayacut. But if the Government are going to deny supply of water to Coimbatore, Salem and Trichinopoly for the sake of irrigating three additional lakhs of acres in Tanjore, that is very unjust and inequitable. I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will consider the question of equitable distribution of water of the Cauvery river from the points of view urged by various members. The whole difficulty seems to lie in the fact that it costs less for the Government to supply water to Tanjore. I think the Government are following a bad and unwise policy in doing so. If they can charge some reasonable rate for water, it would be all right. One can understand the Government if they ask the people of Coimbatore and Trichinopoly as well as those of other districts to pay a flat rate per acre. Or the Government can charge according to the value of the water to the particular ryot who is given water. The Government are at present following an uncertain policy, a policy which no one can understand. If they ask that Tanjore should pay Rs. 15 and that Coimbatore should pay Rs. 25 because of the varying value of water to the ryots, I can understand that policy. After all, from the point of view of the State, not the cost of the water but the value of the water to the ryot should be taken into consideration. Let Tanjore which wants three lakhs of acres of land more to be irrigated in that district pay something more than the bare cost if it wants water that can be given more justly to other districts. Why should the water of the Cauvery be used for the benefit of one district alone at the cost of the

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other three districts? It is stated that the Mettur project was originally intended for irrigating lands in the Tanjore district. According to the point of view of the Government and according to the point of view of the Engineers who are obsessed with the idea of productiveness of an irrigation project, it may be so. It is better that they give up this false standard of productiveness and look from the point of view of the additional wealth the irrigation project is going to bring to this country apart from the point of view of the bare revenue that the Government will get. If once they realize this fact, where is the difficulty about the matter? The Government consider the question from the point of view of the revenue they will get. They do not take into account the money they will get in the shape of income-tax and the money that the local boards will get. Besides a particular district, a particular area, a particular channel is treated separately. This is a most unwise policy. This is a policy which one who can devote some kind of attention to the matter cannot understand. It is better that the Government fix a good and wise standard which is based on general principles. I can understand if the Government charge a flat rate of Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 everywhere. You take then into consideration the amount you are going to get, and not the cost of the scheme. The only just standard is the value to the ryot of the water that is supplied to him. This is not easy to fix and is variable. Generally you can fix one flat rate for the ryots of Tanjore and another rate for the ryots of Coimbatore. On the whole it will be all right."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I am not able to see how the question of the levy of rates is relevant to the resolution before the House."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—"As I said, Sir, if the Government's object in giving up the Coimbatore, Salem and Trichinopoly districts is that the scheme will be unproductive because the ryots of those districts do not pay very high rates, I say it will not be unproductive. From my point of view, the value of the additional production of grain due to extended irrigation in these various districts is certainly more than enough to satisfy the requirements of a productive scheme" 4-30 p.m.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"May I ask the hon. Member, for the benefit of the other hon. Members, to confine himself to the time-limit?"

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—"I want to impress on the Government the necessity of deeply pondering over this question of the productive or unproductive nature of the scheme. Judging by the standard that they have set before themselves, namely, the revenue-producing capacity of a particular project without regard to its usefulness to all the people concerned, they will surely come to the conclusion that this scheme is after all unproductive. Let them consider that a scheme is productive or not, not in the shape of mere revenue to the Government but in terms of additional wealth created by such a scheme. No particular district should be considered as a separate area for the purpose of deciding this productive nature of the scheme. Judging from that standard, Sir, I believe it is but fair and just that the claims of the various districts wishing to have a fair share of the waters of the Cauvery should be satisfied."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"Mr. President, Sir, I am glad to see from this resolution that the hon. the Mover does not now suggest a

cessation of the work. That was the proposition in the report which the deputation submitted to the Government. Apart from that, the most important recommendation, in the opinion of the Government, was the recommendation that some parts of Salem, Coimbatore and Trichinopoly districts should be irrigated. I would invite the attention of the House to the remarks of Government on that recommendation :—

'The Government have always held the view that these districts should be served to some extent by the Mettur scheme if this could be done at a rate that would pay for the cost and was not so high as to make realization doubtful or difficult. It seems to the Government that it may be practicable to achieve this object by extending the areas at present irrigated through the existing open-head channels taking off from the Cauvery on either side. It may be possible to let in more water into these channels and thus extend irrigation at a cost that would not be prohibitive. The question will be remitted to the Engineer-in-Chief for early investigation and report. Pending a final decision in the matter, the acquisition of lands and excavation of channels in the tail-end portion of the system'

(that is in Tanjore)
'should be deferred.'

"We have thus taken steps to see that, pending the investigation of this matter, the whole area should not be taken up, i.e., the allotted 301,000 acres should not be taken up completely in Tanjore, but that a sufficient area should be reserved for irrigation in the other districts and that the question should be investigated. I note the suggestion of Mr Arogyaswami Mudaliyar that the estimates which were prepared a couple of years ago as regards irrigation from the Cauvery in the Coimbatore and Salem districts were incorrectly prepared and that merely old data were used for applying new rates. If that is so, the matter will be re-investigated. The real question is whether the land either in Coimbatore or in Salem can be irrigated from Mettur at a cost which is likely to be profitable to the ryot; because Government holds that if it is not likely to be profitable to the ryot, he would not be prepared to take water; nor will it be useful to take an agreement from him, because if it is not profitable to him to take the water, we practically cannot recover the revenue from him.

"As regards the question of Trichinopoly, there is a scheme for a new channel being made from the Cauvery to irrigate an area of about 10,000 acres at a place called Kattalai. It is being investigated; but I cannot agree with the optimism of Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai when he suggests that the cost of the anicut necessary to feed the channel should be omitted from the calculation. As I have said, we have considered sympathetically the most important recommendation of the Committee, and we are taking steps to comply with it, if we can practicably do so.

"Another suggestion made by the deputation and now repeated in this resolution has reference to the question of using cement for the whole dam or for only portions of it. If hon. Members will look at the revised estimate which was communicated to them all including the deputation, they will see that a considerable portion of the dam is to consist of surki mortar. In fact, there is an amount of 13 lakhs shown as saving consequent upon the use of surki mortar, and it is explained that that amount of Rs. 13 lakhs is due to the fact that 20 per cent of surki mortar and 80 per cent of cement was to be used. We have subsequently heard from the Chief Engineer that he will probably be able to use a larger quantity, and I hope some further saving will result.

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"There are various other less important matters on which the deputation have made recommendations, and I shall briefly go through them as they were all mentioned again by the Mover of the resolution.

"As regards money to be spent on buildings, all expenditure on buildings is practically finished and Government have no proposal before them for additional buildings at present, and probably more buildings may not be necessary; anyway none will be built unless absolutely necessary, because after the dam is finished and the work is completed, these buildings will be practically of little use. As a matter of fact, they are all buildings of a temporary nature, and their cost is very much less than that of buildings built according to standard designs.

"It is said that no more money need be spent on the road from Erode to Mettur in view of the new rail road from Salem. We certainly do not propose to spend any more money on this road after the railway comes into working. But it is not working yet, and the present road has to be used. Practically the whole money allotted for its construction has been spent, and it is only the cost of maintenance of the road at such a standard as will enable it to bear the transport of the machinery, etc., that have to go to Mettur that will have to be incurred hereafter.

"As regards the supply of filtered water for construction purposes, I am obliged to differ from the hon. Member who moved the resolution. This was due to the recommendations of the Health Staff who maintained that by supply of unfiltered water on the works, the people drank it and that it was one of the causes of cholera. I need not say that apart from humanitarian considerations an outbreak of cholera is calculated to cause considerable loss as the workmen will run away, and the work is likely to be stopped and delayed. Apart from this, nowadays, higher standards are expected of Government in dealing with the labour they employ in regard to this matter.

"The next suggestion is that all possible attempts should be made to cut down the establishment at the top and that no new offices be created hereafter. The establishment charges have been kept as low as practicable, and are considerably below the amount provided in the estimates.

"The next suggestion is that no one employed in the firms supplying machinery or material to the Government be hereafter employed in the Government service. I do not think that is good business, because I believe it is an ordinary practice and a desirable one, that in the case of special machines, it is useful to employ a man who is familiar with them at least for some time till we train our own people to understand and work the machines. In this connexion, statements were made regarding the sumptuous residences and furniture given to these officers. I may tell the House that whatever it is, whether sumptuous or not, they have to pay rent at rates calculated to cover the cost. It is not supplied free.

"The next proposal is that house rent should be collected from all officers serving in connection with the project. This concession of free housing was given because Mettur is an out of the way place, practically in the middle of the jungle and also malarious and all stores and conveniences of life have to be obtained from outside."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"Provisions are being carried by the Government."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—" That is only from the railway station. I do not think it is an unusual concession, and I think that very largely contributes to the contentment and efficiency of the service which is so important in a project of this nature.

" As regards the recommendation about the amenities of workmen and the closing of toddy shops, those matters were referred to the Mettur Advisory Committee, and we have not yet received their report.

" With reference to the question of fixing the water rates in the Tanjore district, the view taken by the Government has been explained in the Government Order, and I do not think I need repeat it, because I did not hear any Member who has spoken on the subject dealing with that matter.

" As regards the setting up of an advisory committee, I am sorry that any Member of the deputation should have thought that the Government intended to cast any aspersion on the members of the Committee by the remark that they thought it 'undesirable to be uprooting the tree to see how it is growing.' They will notice that Government have included themselves in the remark. If it was considered derogatory, it applies also to the Government.

" When we have started an important work like this and have framed our final estimates, it is good policy to give the responsible officers in charge of the work some discretion, to leave them alone to carry it out unless we have reason to suppose that there is something wrong that needs investigation. For Government to be sending committees either of officials or non-officials at intervals there, upsets the work and unsettles the minds of the people on the spot who are doing the work; and I do not think we will get good service. On the other hand, if there is any reason to suspect that there is anything wrong, I am quite sure the Members of this House will very soon get some suspicion of it in some manner or other, and Government would be only too glad to have a special enquiry made in such circumstances. But we hope they will not occur.

"I think that is all, Sir, that I need say to the House at present. We will of course consider all that has been said to-day before any orders are issued on the recommendations. But I can assure them now, as they regard it as an important matter, that the irrigation of areas in the districts of Coimbatore, Salem and Trichinopoly shall be carried out, if it is practicable to do so."

4-45 p.m. * Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—" Mr. President, in view of the impatience of the House, I propose to be very brief. When I heard my hon. Colleague Mr. Marudavanam Pillai, his speech reminded me of the old proverb which says 'To him that hath it shall be given and from him hath that not even the little he has shall be taken away.' But fortunately for me, however, I got very good support from friends like Messrs Tulasiram, Koti Reddi and others. So, I hope the case of Salem will be fortified and that Government will give special attention to Salem, because it is almost unimaginable when this stupendous work is located at Salem, that Salem which was buoyed up with hopes should at the last moment find that all the water should be taken away to other places, leaving Salem destitute. Moreover a railway has been constructed and then where is this railway to lead except to the dam and to the barren Sahara desert near it on Salem side. Unless you give irrigation

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facilities to Salem, all the advantages of opening the railway at a cost of so many lakhs will be a waste and it would be most uneconomical besides. There is the other question of the alleged technical difficulty which was more than once hinted in the report.

"I may add that the popular opinion is that the case for Salem has not been seriously considered at all. It is believed the land this side is unsurveyed. Where then is the engineering difficulty or the technical difficulty that has been given expression to more than once in the report and that has not been challenged. I mean the statement that Salem has not been surveyed. The trotting out of these alleged difficulties look more like a bogey than a real fact. Salem demands that water will be supplied at least to certain portions of the district.

"The justification for the committee has been dealt with at length by the previous speakers. I am glad to say that expert opinion has not been praised as *vox dei* and that non-official opinion has been shown as being entitled to some weight after all. I may mention that in the British Cabinet, a late War Minister, Lord Haldane, the philosopher whose spiritual home was Germany had no actual war service to his credit. If Fisher can be a very efficient Cabinet Minister for Education and Haldane for War, I do not see any reason why my friend Mr. Saldanha with all his industry and his ability and Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar cannot constitute themselves into a useful committee. They will be wise counsellors though not technical experts, and as men of wisdom they can advise Government from the commonsense point of view. The fact that Government instead of their original resolve to use cement right through have now come down to 20 per cent of surki mortar and 80 per cent cement, thereby bringing down the cost to 13 lakhs according to the hon. the Revenue Member, though a small fact in itself, is proof positive that there is need for such a committee. Therefore I hope, no more will be said about uprooting the tree and that sort of thing and that the Government will hereafter climb down from their untenable position and recognize the realities and allow a small committee to go into the matter now and then and to advise Government, because even Government is not above advice. With these words, I support the motion."

Mr G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"I move that the question be now put."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—"I second it."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is that the question be now put."

The motion was put to the House and carried.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I now put the amendment of Mr. Ellappa Chettiyar to the vote of the House :—

In the resolution of Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar' in clause 1, insert *the words "Salem and Trichinopoly" between "Coimbatore" and "district" and* substitute *"districts" for "district" and* omit *all the words beginning with "and if . . . by the deputation'."*

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I now put the resolution of Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar as amended by the Council to the vote of the House. The question is that :

'*This Council recommends to the Government that G.O. No.* 2616 *I., dated* 19*th October* 1928, *on the report of the Mettur Project Deputation be reconsidered so far as the following matters are concerned and that—*

(1) *immediate orders be passed for arranging the supply of water for irrigation purposes in Coimbatore, Salem and Trichinopoly districts ;*

(2) *no more money be spent on buildings except in cases where it is absolutely necessary in view of the fact that the cost of the buildings is already very high and that they are all of a temporary nature ;*

(3) *no more money be spent on the road from Erode to Mettur in view of the new rail road being put up from Salem to Mettur ;*

(4) *no filtered water be used for construction purposes and that no more money be spent for this purpose either by way of buildings or otherwise ;*

(5) *all possible attempts be made to cut down the establishment charges at the top and no new offices be created thereafter ;*

(6) *no one employed in the firms supplying machinery or material to the Government be hereafter employed in the Government service ;*

(7) *house-rent be collected from all officers serving in connexion with the project for Government buildings used by them for residence ;*

(8) *the amenities of workmen suggested by the deputation be provided for at once and that arrangements be made to close all arrack and toddy shops at or near Mettur and that necessary establishments be provided to prevent illicit distillation ;*

(9) *the question of fixing water-rates in the Tanjore district and coming to an early understanding with the Tanjore ryots be taken up at once to avoid all possible difficulties in the future ;*

(10) *immediate steps be taken to set up an Advisory Committee of the Council to make occasional inspections and suggestions regarding desirable changes in the working of the scheme*

(11) *the question of using cement for the whole dam or for only portions of it be re-opened and carefully considered over again ;*

(12) *if the Government are not prepared to accept the suggestions of the report to a large extent, a committee of experts chiefly composed of retired Indian D.P.W. officers be appointed to go into all the questions raised in the report and in the resolution.*'"

The resolution as amended was put and declared carried.

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Mr. S. N. Dorai Raja demanded a poll and the House divided thus :—

Ayes :

1. Mr. A. B. Shetty.
2. ,, J. Kuppuswami.
3. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur.
4. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai.
5. ,, N. Siva Raj.
6. ,, M. V. Gangadhara Siva.
7. ,, V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
8. ,, S. Subrahmanya Moopanar.
9. ,, S. V. Vanavudaiya Gounder.
10. ,, S. Venkiah.
11. ,, Syed Ibrahim Sahib.
12. The Zamindar of Singampatti.
13. Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur.
14. Mr. A. S. Sahajananda Swami.
15. ,, V. Ramjee Rao.
16. ,, Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
17. ,, S. Satyamurti.
18. ,, C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar.
19. ,, T. Adinarayana Chettiyar.
20. ,, P. Anjaneyulu.
21. ,, J. A. Saldanha.
22. ,, Abdul Hamid Khan.
23. ,, C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar.
24. ,, G. Harisarvottama Rao.
25. ,, C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar.
26. ,, K. V. R. Swami.
27. ,, K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar.
28. ,, D. Narayana Raju.
29. Mr K. Uppi Sahib.
30. ,, K. R. Karant.
31. ,, A. Parasurama Rao.
32. ,, Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib.
33. ,, P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu.
34. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo.
35. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao.
36. ,, K. Koti Reddi.
37. ,, K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar.
38. ,, C. Venkatarangam Nayudu.
39. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
40. Mr. Ramanath Goenka.
41. ,, T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
42. ,, K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar.
43. ,, K. P. Raman Menon.
44. ,, B. Ramachandra Reddi.
45. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapathi Mudaliyar.
46. The Raja of Panagal.
47. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
48. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu.
49. Mr. P. T. Rajan.
50. ,, T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar.
51. ,, Khadir Mohidin Sahib.
52. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddiyar.
53. ,, B. Muniswami Nayudu.
54. Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi.
55. The Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.

Noes :

1. The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks.
2. ,, Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur.
3. ,, Mr. T. E. Moir.
4. ,, Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar.
5. Rao Bahadur C. V. Anantakrishna Ayyar.
6. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur.
7. Mr. H. A. Watson.
8. ,, C. A. Souter.
9. ,, S. H. Slater.
10. Mr. A. McG. C. Tampoe.
11. ,, C. W. E. Cotton.
12. ,, Syed Tajudin Sahib.
13. ,, J. Bheemayya.
14. ,, R. Foulkes.
15. ,, Mahmud Schamnad Sahib.
16. ,, K. Krishnan.
17. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan.
18. Rajkumar S. N. Dorai Raja.
19. Mr. R. J. C. Robertson.
20. ,, K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar.

Neutral ;

1. The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar.
2. ,, ,, S. Muthiah Mudaliyar.
3. ,, Dr. P. Subbarayan.
4. Mr. V. Ch. John.
5. ,, M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
6. ,, Moopil Nayar of Kavalappara.
7. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami.
8. The Zamindar of Kallikota.
9. The Zamindar of Seithur.
10. Mr. C. Marudavanam Pillai.
11. Khan Bahadur S. K. Syed Abdul Razack Sahib Bahadur.

Ayes 55. Noes 20. Neutral 11.

The resolution as amended was carried.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The Council will now adjourn and re-assemble on the 28th January 1929."

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

[29th November 1928

Appendix I.

[Vide answer to question No. 801 asked by Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 366 supra.]

Letter R.O.C. No. 1277/28, *dated* 12*th September* 1928, *from the Deputy Director of Agriculture, IV Circle, St. Thomas' Mount, to the Director of Agriculture, Madras.*

In returning your letter to the Registrar-General of Panchayats I have the following remarks to offer.

My connexion with the rural reconstruction scheme inaugurated by the District Board President, Chingleput, dates to the beginning of January 1927. The conference consisting of some Taluk Board Presidents, the President, District Board, Vice-President, District Board, the District Board Engineer, District Health Officer, District Medical Officer, the Deputy Director of Agriculture, IV Circle, District Educational Officer, Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies and a few others under the presidency of the Registrar-General of Panchayats was held on the 17th January 1927 when a discussion took place on the scheme which the District Board President prepared for consideration at the meeting. It was settled at that conference that three supervisors should be appointed for doing propaganda work in village rural reconstruction in the firkas of Uttiramerur, Villivakkam and Kannigapeir. There were 19 resolutions but the 16th referred to the Agricultural department which runs as follows:—

"That attempts be made to start a demonstration farm in charge of the agricultural demonstrator in each firka, a part of whose time should be devoted to inspecting farms attached to rural schools and advising on the methods adopted in those farms."

At the meeting itself I expressed that it would not be possible to carry out this resolution into practice as I was very much short of men and that it would be almost impossible to have three demonstration farms in three firkas in one taluk alone when it was found extremely difficult to run successfully one demonstration farm in each district during the years 1924—1927. Please refer to the opening paragraph of my monthly report for February 1928 where I dealt with this subject.

2. On the 3rd February of the same year, the President, District Board, sent me draft forms and instructions on the weekly reports of the rural supervisors, instructions to the District Health Officer, to the District Board Engineer, and to the rural supervisors requesting me to offer my suggestions by way of additions or omissions. In my letter, dated 23rd February 1927 (C-162–27), I offered some remarks on the weekly reports of the rural supervisors which alone referred to agricultural matters. In March of the same year I received a letter from the District Board President asking me to depute one of my agricultural demonstrators to work along with the rural supervisors "to do intensive propaganda work" in the three firkas already mentioned. I wrote and asked him to make clear what my demonstrators were expected to do, as I did not understand what his request meant. He replied to say that the demonstrators had to tour along with the rural supervisors and help them in carrying out "intense propaganda work on

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improved methods of agriculture and that mission consisted in purely educating villagers in the areas selected specially for rural reconstruction work on all agricultural subjects." As I was not sure whether these supervisors had any agricultural knowledge to be really benefited by the assistance that my demonstrators would give them, I asked the President whether his supervisors were agriculturally trained men and whether they had any experience in the kind of work they were to do and I also requested him to let me know their names and their qualifications if he had no objection. To this he replied about the end of March mentioning the names of three men, one, a science B.A., another a science Intermediate, and the third who read up to Matriculation class, "all belonging to agricultural families having knowledge of village affairs." He also stated that they had undergone necessary training under the Registrar-General of Village Panchayats and that he was arranging to get them trained under the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. My opinion, therefore, was that although these people belonged to the agricultural classes, they had no knowledge of modern agriculture and that they needed training, first in agriculture before I could send a demonstrator to assist them as to how propaganda work should be done. A knowledge of local agriculture was first necessary before propaganda in improved methods could be understood by them. I enclose a copy of my letter R.O.C. No. 162/27, dated 12th April 1927. This was my opinion and I hold to the same even now because I consider it would have been a great waste of time of my demonstrators to go with untrained men and trying to teach them agriculture as well as methods of propaganda. You will notice in my letter, that I suggested that they may undergo practical training in agriculture under a demonstrator similar to the training they had undergone under the Registrar-General of Village Panchayats and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. After this I had no letter from him till the 24th of November. On that date, he wrote in reply to my letter referred to above stating that the rural supervisors had already commenced work and could not be disturbed for any long period for being trained under the agricultural demonstrators and that one of them posted to Kannagapeir was an agricultural graduate and was doing propaganda work. He then asked me to depute one of my demonstrators either to Ambathur or Uttiramerur to do intense propaganda work in one of these two firkas. He also thought that "unless this was done the rural reconstruction work undertaken by the Board may not be got done quite so satisfactorily." At that time two of my demonstrators had gone on urgent leave and their work had to be done by the neighbouring demonstrators as additional charges. My demonstrator at St. Thomas' Mount was completely engaged in the preliminary arrangements for the All-India Exhibition and several of my demonstrators had to be drawn for work in this connexion for varying periods during the months of December and January. So I wrote and regretted my inability to post an agricultural demonstrator as I was under-staffed at that time and suggested that he might send his supervisor to work under the agricultural demonstrator at least for six weeks, as he could, in my opinion, pick up a lot during that time; failing this I suggested that I would send copies of the tour programme of the concerned demonstrators so that the rural supervisors might visit the places in company with the agricultural demonstrators and do propaganda work. The President evidently was not in favour with my first suggestion and therefore wrote and asked me to send him copies of the tour programmes of the demonstrators. This I have been doing since

December 1927 and I believe the tour programmes of my demonstrators at Tiruvallur, Madurantakam, Conjeeveram, are still being received by him every fortnight.

3. In spite of the remarks of the District Board President in the Madras Panchayat Bulletin to which I take serious objection I might give you some information on what my demonstrators have been doing to some extent at least in helping the rural reconstruction scheme.

4. In March 1927 my demonstrator at St. Thomas' Mount wrote to the President, Villivakkam Union, with reference to his personal interview with that gentleman that the sole object of his visit was to help them in the rural reconstruction area by starting a demonstration farm and that he was very disappointed that the meeting that the President of the Union promised to arrange was not held on the day fixed. Replying to this the President of the Union Board regretted that it was not possible to hold a meeting and that he would in consultation with the ryots fix another day. After this no letter seems to have been received from the union board and no work by this demonstrator could be organized for this reason. In July 1928 the same demonstrator met the supervisor at Villivakkam and made enquiries about the villages where improvements could be started. He selected five villages which could be tackled first as there were better facilities here than in others. Owing to other work he was not able to go in July but made a tour in August and visited three villages. The supervisor, however, did not find it convenient to tour with my demonstrator during that period.

5. With regard to Kannagapeir, my demonstrator reports that he met the supervisor for the first time in January 1928 near Vanianchatram. After that in spite of the tour programmes of the demonstrator having been sent to the District Board President regularly, he met the supervisor two or three times at Kannagapeir itself and on the last occasion he requested him to supply some quantity of G.E.B. 24 to a ryot at Kuppam village. The demonstrator requested the supervisor to send a servant of the mirasidar to his depot to obtain the seed as is done in all cases where seed is required. Nothing transpired afterwards.

6. With regard to Uttiramerur, my demonstrator at Conjeeveram visited the villages round about Uttiramerur in connexion with rural reconstruction scheme and advised on agricultural matters. Again he demonstrated the improved implements in the village of Ravatanallur, Kuruvadi, Ammayappanallur and supplied necessary implements. The head coolie employed in that area worked under the guidance of the rural reconstruction supervisor, Uttiramerur, and conducted demonstrations of Konkan ploughs and Roll Easy Mhotes. Another head coolie visited Uttiramerur in July-August 1928, and demonstrated Malwa plough in Pennalur, Perumkoli, Kathayampandal and Tholavanpundi. These were in response to four applications received from the ryots which were forwarded by the Rural Supervisor, Uttiramerur, sent through the District Board President.

7. The President also asked me recently to let him know what implements and seeds should be stocked at the headquarters of these supervisors and after carefully going into the question, I have just sent in my proposals.

8. I believe the above will give an idea of the sincere effort made by me and my staff to help the District Board President in the scheme that he initiated and if we did not do more it is not due to indifference as he makes

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it out to be but to exigencies of work and to the fact that the President did not care to take my advice but to his insistence that I should carry out his suggestion rather than meet me half-way.

Enclosure

Letter from the Deputy Director of Agriculture, IV Circle, St. Thomas' Mount, to the President, District Board, Saidapet, dated the 12th April 1927, No. C. 162/27.

I think it would be far better if your supervisors would get an agricultural training under my demonstrators instead of the latter tour about with your men. It would be a waste of time and I can ill-afford to spare my men for such a purpose. I am prepared to have these men trained under experienced demonstrators if you can spare them for at least a period of three months, but I would prefer six months. If you are agreeable they can be sent to the Agricultural Demonstrator, Wallajah, Agricultural Demonstrator, Tiruvalur, and Assistant Agricultural Demonstrator, Mailpatti, in the order of the list of the supervisors you sent me.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 815 asked by Mr. G Harisarvottama Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 375 supra.]

From the Director of Industries, No. 122-A/28, dated 10th August 1928.

I have the honour to state that the Collector of Bellary who was asked whether anything could be done to improve grazing facilities in his district reports that the unreserves in the district are gradually diminishing in extent on account of the grant of land to members of the depressed classes and to ex-army men. The grazing ground known as the Cavalry Ramnah Hill in Kudutani village is in charge of the Military Department and is not available for use by the sheep owners in the village. The only places where grazing areas can be found are the Forest Panchayat reserves and as there are many Forest Panchayats in the district, sheep, though not goats, of the villages adjoining the area may be allowed to graze in the reserves at reduced rates, if necessary. Some of the lands that have been reserved for assignment to the members of the depressed classes are being eliminated from the reserve list as they have been found quite unfit for cultivation and such lands may be classed as grazing porambokes. The Collector has no other suggestions to offer in regard to the improvement of grazing facilities.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 824 asked by Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 384 supra.]

Name of taluk board.	Estimated cost of water-supply.		Amount of Government grant sanctioned.		Amount contributed by the local board, taluk or district board.		Total amount thus available.		Surplus or deficit, if any, to make up the estimated cost of the year's programme.	
	1927-28.	1928-29.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1927-28.	1928-29.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Kurnool	15,300	9,500	5,141	4,200	4,915	3,533	10,056	7,733	— 5,244	1,767
Dhone	17,830	25,007	8,274	9,673	8,956	9,584	17,230	19,257	— 600	5,750
Nandyal	13,270	6,100	6,878	2,550	4,936	1,700	11,814	4,250	— 1,456	1,850
Koilkuntla ..	51,465	51,465	5,718	9,275	5,718	6,407	11,436	15,682	— 40,029	35,783
Markapur	10,400	9,440	5,231	2,550	5,200	1,731	10,431	4,281	+ 31	5,159

TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

Appendix IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 826 asked by Dr. B. S. Mallayya at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 385 supra.]

Statement of gross receipts and refunds under timber tax with reference to section 129 *of the Madras City Municipal Act,* 1919.

Year.	Gross receipts.	Refunds
	RS.	RS.
1921–22	1,95,212	38,128
1922–23	1,83,702	32,687
1923–24	1,67,713	49,408
1924–25	1,48,608	52,411
1925–26	1,74,186	36,119
1926–27	1,83,985	12,565
1927–28	1,50,650	14,020

Appendix V.

[Vide answer to question No. 843 asked by Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 398 supra.]

Letter from the President, District Board, Cuddapah, Dis. No. 1536-*D.B. of* 1928, *dated the* 18*th November* 1928.

I have the honour to state that in the last one or two years the regime of the river Pennair has changed and the deep water section has moved away from the Chennur side with the result that sand and silt is being deposited on the river bed on the Chennur side and the undervents of the causeway are getting choked. After the last flood this year, the bed has shown a tendency to regain its old level. The condition of the causeway in the winter cannot be said to be satisfactory. The central portion of the causeway which has a stone pitching has a rough uneven surface during the winter while the portion treated with concrete has developed ruts which are being closed up after each flood. In the current year the causeway was under water for an exceptionally long period. After the rainy season, the causeway is annually metalled for the entire length.

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Appendix VI.

[Vide answer to question No. 848 asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 400 supra.]

G.O. No. 1304, P.H., dated 26th June 1928.

Read—the following papers :—

From the Chairman, Municipal Council, Mangalore, No. C.-751/B-27-28, dated 30th March 1928.

From the Chairman, Municipal Council, Mangalore, No. C.-751/B-27-28, dated 12th May 1928.

From the Director of Town-Planning, No. 827/28, dated 28th May 1928.

Order—No. 1304, *P.H.*, *dated* 26*th June* 1928.

Under sub-section (3) of section 14 of the Madras Town-Planning Act, 1920, the Government are pleased to sanction, subject to certain modifications, the "Block No. 10 Market Ward Town-planning scheme" approved by the Mangalore Municipal Council in its resolution dated 19th December 1927. The scheme as sanctioned is set out in Appendix I to this order. The notification in Appendix II will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette.*

2. The Chairman, Municipal Council, Mangalore, is requested to see that the scheme is open to the inspection of the public during office hours at the municipal office for a period of six months from 1st August 1928.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Public Health)

S Ranganathan,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Chairman, Municipal Council, Mangalore.
,, Collector of South Kanara.
,, Revenue Department.
,, Board of Revenue (Land Revenue and Settlement), through Revenue Department.
,, Director of Town-Planning.
,, Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
,, Law (Drafting) Department.
,, Superintendent, Government Press (with copy of Appendix II only for publication).

APPENDIX I.

The Block No. 10 *Market Ward Town-Planning Scheme, Mangalore,* 1928.

1. This scheme may be cited as "The Block No. 10 Market Ward Town-planning Scheme, Mangalore, 1928."

2. In this scheme unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—

'Act' means the Madras Town-Planning Act, 1920.

'Scheme' means "the Block No. 10 Market Ward Town-planning scheme, Mangalore, 1928."

'Area' means the area included within the scheme as defined in clause 3 of the scheme.

'Council' means the Municipal Council of Mangalore.

'Map' or 'schedule' means a map or schedule attached to the scheme.

3. The area to which the scheme shall apply shall be that within the inner edge of the boundary line coloured red on Map C.

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4. The ownership and extent of all lands included in the scheme is given in Schedule I.

5. Map C shows the lines of existing streets in the area coloured yellow, and proposed streets and widenings coloured burnt sienna.

6. An estimate of net cost of the scheme is furnished in Schedule II.

7. The new street and widenings described in Schedule III and all works connected therewith shall be constructed by the Council on the lines and of the width indicated on Map C.

8. So far as may be necessary for the purpose of carrying out the scheme, the Council may demolish any buildings or other works in the lands reserved under the scheme for streets and other purposes.

9. The Council may acquire every land and building in the area under or for the purposes of the scheme and shall be entitled to enter upon and take possession of the same at any time after six months from the date on which the scheme takes effect.

10. The Council may dispose of the lands either acquired under clause 9 above or owned by it by sale in auction, lease or otherwise, subject to compliance with this scheme and also subject to payment of the same assessment or ground-rent as was levied upon them prior to acquisition. The rate so fixed will be liable to revision at resettlement.

11. (*a*) The lands allotted and reserved under section 4 of the Act are given in Schedule IV.

(*b*) In the area reserved under the scheme for municipal offices the following may be permitted :—

Municipal office with out-buildings, theatre, town hall, public library, reading room, picture gallery, museum and a depot for lorries, vans, etc.

(*c*) If any of the lands shown reserved in Schedule IV are not required for the purpose mentioned therein, they may be reserved by the Council for any other purpose as it thinks fit.

(*d*) No part of the area shall be used for any factory or workshops in which it is proposed to employ steam, water, mechanical or electrical power.

12. (*a*) In the unreserved area, such residential, commercial or public buildings may be erected as in the opinion of the Council will not be detrimental to the amenity of the area.

(*b*) Plans and elevations of buildings shall be of a design approved by the Council.

(*c*) The use of thatch as building material in the area is prohibited.

(*d*) In the area for municipal offices, not more than two-thirds of the extent of the site shall be built upon.

(*e*) In the area, the building line shall be placed at a distance of at least 10 feet from street alignment and in the space between the building line and the street no building of any character other than a compound wall shall be permitted.

(*f*) The building rules, regulations and by-laws in force in the municipality of Mangalore shall apply to the scheme in so far as they are not inconsistent with this scheme.

13. Claims for compensation, under section 20 of the Act shall be made within four months of the date on which the scheme takes effect.

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14. Claims for betterment contribution under section 23 of Act shall be made by the Council within six months of the date on which the scheme takes effect.

The contribution shall be payable annually for a term of 15 years and shall be levied at $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the increase in value calculated in accordance with the provisions of the Act. Provided that the lands acquired and sold or leased by the Council shall not be liable for betterment.

15. The Council may, subject to the approval of Government, make any agreement that it thinks fit with any person or persons in furtherance of the carrying out of the scheme or any matters concerning therewith, provided that such agreement is not inconsistent with the scheme.

SCHEDULE I.

Ownership and extent.

Serial number.	Subdivision number.	Names of owners.	Extent. ACS.	Extent. SQ.FT.	Present use of land.
1	186	Mary Matilda Coelho Bai, Manager. (John J. Fernandes.)	4	13,068	There are many huts and undesirable sheds, such as coffee hotels, motor garages and motor stand, jatka workshop, one main building used as offices and two other roadside buildings used as shops.
2	185	Jakappa and Chandramma.	2	23,087	There are coffee hotel and cinema company and shops.

SCHEDULE II.

Estimate of the net cost of the scheme.

Debit.	RS.
1. Acquisition of lands, buildings, etc.—	
(1) For road and lanes ..	8,746
(2) For other purposes ..	30,561
2. Improvements—	
(1) Raising level	200
(2) Forming roads	300
(3) Culverts	1,500
(4) Drains	1,500
(5) Lighting	..
(6) Water-supply	..
(7) Latrines	..
(8) Schools	..
(9) Markets	..
(10) Other works	..
3. Compensation for injurious affections	..
4. Miscellaneous—	
(1) Cost of preparation of scheme including special surveys	..
(2) Cost of arbitration	..
(3) Legal expenses	..
(4) Contingencies	693
Total ..	43,500

Net capital cost—Nil.

Credit.	RS.
1. Government grants	..
2. Contribution from—	
(a) Government departments ..	..
(b) Other local authorities ..	..
3. (a) Sale-proceeds of sites and buildings	7,000
(b) Credit for public building site with buildings ..	35,000
4. Amounts debitable to—	
(a) The Elementary Education fund of the municipality.	..
(b) The water-supply and drainage fund	..
(c) The Remunerative enterprises fund	..
5. Other items (trees and other materials)	1,500
Total ..	43,500

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SCHEDULE III.

List of new streets and widenings.

Serial number.	Distinguishing letters.	Length in feet.	Width in feet.	Extent in square feet.	Survey numbers affected.	Extent in survey numbers affected.
						CENTS
1	D	280	30	8,400	185 & 186	19
		40	40	1,600		4
2	E.	170	30	5,100	186	12
		40	40	1,600		4
		90	70	6,300		15
				23,000		54

SCHEDULE IV.

Reserved lands.

Serial number.	Distinguishing letters.	Purpose of reservation.	Extent in square feet.	Survey number affected.	Extent in survey number affected.
					ACS.
1	A	Municipal office ..	81,200	186	1·86
			43,500	185 & 186	1·00
2	B	Shops	10,800	185 & 186	0·25
3	C	Do.	8,000	186	0·19
4	D & E	New streets, etc. (from Schedule II).	28,000	185 & 186	0·54
					3·84

APPENDIX II.

Notification.

In pursuance of the provisions of sub-section (4) of section 14 of the Madras Town-Planning Act, 1920, the Local Government are hereby pleased to notify that under sub-section (3) of the said section they have sanctioned, subject to certain modifications, "the Block No. 10 Market Ward Town-planning scheme" submitted by the Mangalore Municipal Council. The scheme as modified will be open to the inspection of the public during office hours at the municipal office, Mangalore, for a period of six months from the 1st August 1928.

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

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Appendix VII.

[Vide answer to question No. 862 asked by Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 409 supra.]

Statement showing the approximate extent of (unreserves) forest set apart for grazing purpose for each of the villages in which reserves have been formed.

Chapidiya Reserve.

1. Boradabilli	The extent set apart for this village for grazing purposes is 100 acres.
2. Noronopur	The extent set apart for this village for grazing purposes is 63 acres and 94 cents.
3. Haripur	The extent set apart for this village for grazing purposes is 60 acres.
4. Kusuguma	The extent set apart for this village for grazing purposes is 15 acres.

Rongomatiya.

1. Jhoropari	An extent of 50 acres has been set apart as unreserve for grazing purposes.
2. Kesapursyasan ...	Do. do.
3. Kondhosundorapalli.	An extent of 84 acres has been set apart as unreserve for grazing purposes.

Baduva Reserve.

1. Sasopur	An extent of about 500 acres has been set apart for grazing purposes.
2. Konokapolli	An extent of about 27 acres.
3. Golabondhopolli ...	An extent of 60 acres has been set apart for grazing purposes.
4. Kondhobondho ... } 5. Guntupoda }	An extent of 410 acres has been set apart for grazing purposes as unreserve.
6. Dontaribodogo ...	An extent of 35 acres has been set apart for grazing purposes as unreserve.

Bododonda Reserve.

1. Sasopur	An extent of 500 acres has been set apart for this village as unreserve for grazing purposes.
2. Kesapursyasan ...	One side of this village is also Bododonda reserve. An extent of about 50 acres has been set apart as unreserve for grazing purposes.
3. Bhumidhimiripolli ...	An extent of 74 acres has been set apart as unreserve for grazing purposes.

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Bhumidhimiripolli.

1. Bhumidhimiripolli village.	An extent of 74 acres has been set apart as unreserve for grazing purposes.
2. Mohulapolli	
3. Vinjagiri	An extent of about 180 acres has been set apart as unreserve for grazing purposes.
4. Korobhago	An extent of 30 acres has been set apart as unreserve for grazing purposes.

Gudiya and Suliya.

1. Hirakhandi village.	An extent of 100 acres has been set apart as unreserve for grazing purposes.
2. Soropoda	An extent of 20 acres has been set apart as unreserve for grazing purposes.
3. Baharipur	An extent of 40 acres has been set apart as unreserve for grazing purposes.
4. Kondupolli	An extent of 150 acres has been set apart as unreserve for grazing purposes.
5. Padmapur	Do.
6. Chancharapalli ...	Do.
7. Polavupolli	An extent of 180 acres has been set apart as unreserve for grazing purposes.
8. Rosokumpa	

APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide answer to question No. 892 asked by Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 431 supra.]

Letter No 2303/28-*C.E.P., dated* 19*th November* 1928, *from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.*

The Executive Engineer, Godavari Head Works division, reports that as Navigation Rules do not apply to portions of the river referred to in clause (*a*) of question No. 549, no check is exercised over the boats with regard to their river-worthiness or otherwise. If the boats are overloaded so as to be dangerous to human life, action can be taken under the Penal Code by the Police and the record of accidents, if any, may be available with the Police department.

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Appendix IX.

[Vide answer to question No. 893 asked by Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 431 supra.]

From the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated 31*st October* 1928, *No.* 2368/28-*C.E.P.*

The Boradapalli project or Rushikulya reservoir project is for the formation of a reservoir on the Rushikulya river to supplement the supply to and fully develop the Rushikulya system. The cost of the project was estimated at Rs. 23·9 lakhs in 1906. This was re-examined in 1921–22 by Mr. F. E Morgan, late Executive Engineer, Projects division. The estimates for constructing reservoirs (1) at Singapuram and (2) at Nimmapalle, which were forwarded by him, were sent to the Superintending Engineer, Waltair Circle, for revision. The Superintending Engineer, while submitting the estimates duly revised, stated that the reservoirs were prohibitively costly and were not worth further investigation. The estimates which were examined and revised in this office with reference to the 1927–28 rates amounted to Rs. 71,20,000 for the Singapuram reservoir and Rs. 61,86,000 for Nimmapalle reservoir. Mr. Stoney, the then Chief Engineer for Irrigation, considered the projects as unremunerative and they were accordingly abandoned.

2. The Superintending Engineer was then asked to examine the supply channel scheme—item No. 9 at page 8 of Mr. Morgan's report—which is intended to supplement the supply to the Rushyikulya system. The Superintending Engineer has recently suggested that this scheme might be taken up after the recently sanctioned improvements to the Surada reservoir are carried out and the effect is watched. This suggestion is being examined by me.

Appendix X.

[Vide answer to question No. 897 asked by Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 433 supra.]

Letter from the Executive Engineer, Nellore division, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated 13*th November* 1928, *No* 1961-*M.*

[Tanks—Bandaganapalli—Makabanda project—Udayagiri taluk, Nellore.]

Makabanda tank is situated below the hills behind Udayagiri Fort near the village of Bandaganapalli. A stream with a catchment of 4½ square miles issues from the hills at that place. In 1892, Mr. J. E S. Campbell, who was then Head Assistant Collector, urged the investigation of a project for making a large tank at that place. In 1894 Mr. R. A. Graham again took up the question; he showed that 1,338 acres of land were available for cultivation and expected that the money invested in this project would give a handsome return. In 1894 Mr. S. H. Wynne commended it to the Executive Engineer. In March 1895 Mr. C. H. D. Marjoribanks sent to the Collector an estimate for constructing a tank at this place at a cost of Rs. 28,975 and showed that it would irrigate 220 acres and would probably

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give a return of 2 per cent with a water-rate of Rs. 4 per acre. In 1901 late Mr. R. A. Srinivasa Ayyangar, the then Executive Engineer, reported to the Superintending Engineer, Second Circle, that the project would not pay even the maintenance estimate of the tank.

In June 1914 whilst the Collector, Mr. R. Ramachandra Rao, camped at Udayagiri, a mahazar was presented to him and the question was reopened. Taking the average area cultivated per square mile under seven tanks in Udayagiri taluk to work out to 17 acres per square mile, it was considered that only ($17 \times 4\frac{1}{2}$) or 76 acres could be reckoned on. An estimate approximately amounting to Rs. 30,000, to which about one-third was added to meet the cost of establishment and tools and plant, bringing the total cost to Rs. 40,000, was accordingly prepared to irrigate 76 acres on an average. In the report accompanying the estimate, it was explained that the project should yield a gross revenue of Rs. 1,700 a year on the sum invested if it was to be remunerative (vide details below) :—

	RS.
Interest at 4 per cent on Rs 40,000	1,600
Add maintenance charges at As. 12 per acre and a small percentage for the share of Revenue Department to collect the revenue.	100
Total ...	1,700

and that in order to collect this amount on 76 acres, it was necessary that the water-tax should be levied at 1700/76 or Rs. 22-6-0, which was perhaps four to five times the water-tax which could be levied on such remote and insecure cultivation. On the recommendation of the then Executive Engineer that the project could not be made to pay even as a famine work, the proposal for the formation of the Makabanda reservoir was dropped by the Collector for a second time.

TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

Appendix XI.

[Vide answer to question No. 898 asked by Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 433 supra.]

Statement showing the present stages of the several irrigation schemes in the Kollegal taluk.

1. *Hebbahalla project.*—A report has been received from the Chief Engineer in which he has suggested that the scheme may be abandoned, in view of the fact that it is hopeless as a remunerative proposition. The matter is under consideration by the Government.

2. *Udutharahalla scheme.*—The gaugings are going on and will not be completed till April 1930.

3. *Honahalla scheme.*—The scheme is for improving the supply to Mudigondan, Kongankorai and Anbapuram tanks, and consists in the construction of a combined bridge and regulator. Plans and estimates are under preparation by the local Public Works Department officers.

4. *Thattahalla scheme.*—The proposal is to construct an anicut across the stream and to divert water for irrigation in the villages of Hanur and Doddamaridavaraisamudram. Preliminary plans and estimates have been prepared. The ryots who originally promised to bear the cost of the scheme are not now prepared to do so. The question of carrying out the scheme at Government cost is under consideration by the Superintending Engineer. He states that the scheme will probably have to be treated as a famine-relief work.

5. *Improvements to Hampapuram tank.*—The scheme is under examination by the Chief Engineer.

6. *Improvements to Palayam tank.*—Plans and estimates are under preparation by the local Public Works Department officers.

APPENDIX XII.

[*Vide* answer to question No. 932 asked by Mr. K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 453 supra.]

Agricultural divisions.		Agricultural Experimental stations.			Agricultural Demonstrators.	
Number of Circle. (1)	Districts which are comprised in each Circle. (2)	Number of stations in each Circle. (3)	Names of the Agricultural Experimental stations. (4)	The places where they are located. (5)	Number of Agricultural Demonstrators in each Circle. (6)	Headquarters of the Agricultural Demonstrators. (7)
I Circle ..	(1) Ganjam. (2) Vizagapatam. (3) East Godavari. (4) West Godavari.	2	(1) Sugarcane Experiment station. (2) Experiment station.	(1) Anakapalle. (2) Samalkot.	15	Ganjam district— (1) Chicacole, (2) Berhampur, (3) Aska, (4) Parlakimedi. Vizagapatam district— (5) Vaddadi, (6) Yellamanchilli, (7) Vizianagram, (8) Bobbili, (9) Anakapalle, (10) Narasapatam. East Godavari district— (11) Samalkota (12) Amalapuram. West Godavari district— (13) Bhimavaram, (14) Ellore, (15) Nidadavole.
II Do.	(1) Kistna. (2) Guntur. (3) Nellore.	2	(1) Paddy-breeding station. (2) Experiment station.	(1) Martern. (2) Guntur.	10	Kistna district— (1) Gudivada, (2) Masulipatam, (3) Gannavaram. Guntur district— (4) Tenali, (5) Bapatla, (6) Vinukonda, (7) Guntur. Nellore district— (8) Nellore, (9) Nayudupeta, (10) Kavali.

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TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

Agricultural divisions.		Agricultural Experimental stations.			Agricultural Demonstrators.	
Number of Circle.	Districts which are comprised in each Circle.	Number of stations in each Circle.	Names of the Agricultural Experimental stations.	The places where they are located.	Number of Agricultural Demonstrators in each Circle.	Headquarters of the Agricultural Demonstrators.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
III Circle	(1) Bellary. (2) Anantapur. (3) Kurnool. (4) Cuddapah.	2	(1) Experiment station. (2) Do.	(1) Hajari. (2) Nandyal.	12	Bellary district— (1) Kudligi, (2) Hospet, (3) Bellary, (4) Adoni. Anantapur district— (5) Guntakal, (6) Tadpatri. Kurnool district— (7) Kurnool, (8) Allagadda, (9) Nandyal, (10) Markapur. Cuddapah district— (11) Cuddapah, (12) Proddatur.
IV Do.	(1) Chingleput. (2) North Arcot. (3) South Arcot. (4) Chittoor	2	(1) Experiment station. (2) Groundnut experiment station.	(1) Palur. (2) Palakuppam.	17	Chingleput district— (1) St. Thomas' Mount, (2) Conjeeveram, (3) Madurantakam, (4) Tiruvallur. North Arcot district— (5) Tiruvattipuram, (6) Tiruppattur, (7) Gudiyattam, (8) Polur, (9) Wallajah. South Arcot district— (10) Cuddalore, (11) Villupuram, (12) Tindivanam, (13) Kallakurchi. Chittoor district— (14) Tiruttani, (15) Chittoor, (16) Madanapalle, (17) Palmaner.

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

Agricultural divisions.		Agricultural Experimental Stations.			Agricultural Demonstrators.	
Number of Circle.	Districts which are comprised in each Circle.	Number of stations in each Circle.	Names of the Agricultural Experimental Stations.	The places where they are located.	Number of Agricultural Demonstrators in each Circle.	Headquarters of the Agricultural Demonstrators.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
V Circle1. ..	(1) Tanjore. (2) Trichinopoly.	1	Paddy-breeding station ..	Adutural	14	Tanjore district— (1) Tanjore, (2) Kumbakonam, (3) Mayavaram, (4) Tiruvalur, (5) Pattukkottai, (6) Nannilam. Trichinopoly district— (7) Trichinopoly, (8) Lalgudi, (9) Musiri, (10) Karur, (11) Kulittalai, (12) Manaparai, (13) Ariyalur, (14) Perambalur.
VI Circle ..	(1) Madura. (2) Ramnad. (3) Tinnevelly.	1	Cotton breeding station ..	Koilpatti	17	Madura district— (1) Dindigul, (2) Sholavandan, (3) Madura, (4) Melur, (5) Usilampatti, (6) Palni, (7) Uttamapalayam. Ramnad district— (8) Virudhunagar, (9) Sivakasi, (10) Rajampalayam, (11) Manamadura. Tinnevelly district— (12) Koilpatti, (13) Ettayapuram, (14) Ottapidaram, (15) Srivaikuntam, (16) Ambasamudram, (17) Sankarankoil.

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

Agricultural divisions.		Agricultural Experimental stations.			Agricultural Demonstrators.	
Number of Circle.	Districts which are comprised in each Circle.	Number of stations in each Circle.	Names of the Agricultural Experimental stations.	The places where they are located.	Number of Agricultural Demonstrators in each Circle.	Headquarters of the Agricultural Demonstrators.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
VII Circle	(1) Malabar. (2) South Kanara.	6	(1) Experiment station. (2) Paddy breeding station. (3) Coconut experiment. (4) Do. (5) Do. (6) Do.	(1) Taliparamba. (2) Pattambi. (3) Nileshwar I. (4) Do. II. (5) Do. III. (6) Kasaragod.	16	Malabar district— (1) Badagara, (2) and (3) Calicut, (4) Manjeri, (5) Ponnani, (6) Perintalamana, (7) and (8) Palghat. South Kanara district— (9) and (10) Mangalore, (11) Mudabidri, (12) Udipi, (13) Puttur, (14) Kasaragod, (15) Tellicherry, (16) Cannanore.
VIII Circle	(1) Coimbatore. (2) The Nilgiris. (3) Salem.	9	(1) Central experimental station. (2) Paddy breeding station. (3) Cotton do. (4) Millets do (5) Betel vine station. (6) Potato Farm. (7) Pomological station. (8) Do. (9) Do.	(1) Coimbatore. (2) Do. (3) Do. (4) Do. (5) Vellore. (6) Nanjanad. (7) Coonoor. (8) Kallar. (9) Burliar.	16	Coimbatore district— (1) Coimbatore, (2) Tiruppur, (3) Dharapuram, (4) Avanashi, (5) Kollegal, (6) Bhavani, (7) Gobichettipalayam, (8) Udamalpet, (9) Pollachi, (10) Erode. Nilgiris district— (11) Ootacamund. Salem district— (12) Salem, (13) Attur, (14) Hosur, (15) Rasipuram, (16) Dharmapuri.

N.B.—The Agricultural experimental stations do not include the cattle breeding stations at Guntur, Hosur, Coimbatore, Chintaldevi and the botanic gardens at Ootacamund and Coimbatore.

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

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Appendix XIII

[Vide answer to question No. 941 asked by Mr. K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 457 supra.]

I

List showing the Municipalities in which education tax is being levied.

Municipalities which are levying the education tax.

1. Anantapur.	11. Tiruppur.	21. Calicut.
2. Hindupur.	12. Proddatur.	22. Cochin.
3. Tadpatri.	13. Peddapuram.	23. Tellicherry.
4. Vellore.	14. Rajahmundry.	24. Virudhunagar.
5. Hospet.	15. Tenali.	25. Kumbakonam.
6. Chingleput.	16. Ellore.	26. Negapatam.
7. Conjeeveram.	17. Masulipatam.	27. Tanjore.*
8. Saidapet.	18. Dindigul.	28. Tinnevelly.
9. Chittoor.	19. Kodaikanal.	29. Corporation of Madras.
10. Erode.	20. Madura.	

* Has since decided not to levy the tax.

II

List of Municipalities in which compulsory elementary education has been introduced.

1. Anantapur.	9. Proddatur.	17. Cochin.
2. Hindupur.	10. Parlakimedi.	18. Tellicherry.
3. Vellore.	11. Rajahmundry.	19. Virudhunagar.
4. Hospet.	12. Ellore.	20. Kumbakonam.
5. Chingleput.	13. Masulipatam.	21. Mayavaram.
6. Conjeeveram.	14. Dindigul.	22. Negapatam.
7. Erode.	15. Madura.	23. Tinnevelly.
8. Tiruppur.	16. Calicut.	24. Corporation of Madras.

Appendix XIV.

[Vide answer to question No. 953 asked by Mr. K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 462 supra.]

List of tanks irrigating 500 acres and more in the East Godavari district.

Serial number and taluk.	Village.	Name of tank.
1. Polavaram ...	Ganapavaram ...	Panta tank.
2. Do. ...	Pedakopalli	Sitayyacatta tank.
3. Rajahmundry ...	Koti	Patrum tank.
4. Do. ...	Raghavapuram ...	Narayerakanna tank.
5. Do. ...	Kottapalle	Pedapatruni tank.
6. Ramachandrapuram.	Bikkavolu	Lingala tank.
7. Peddapuram ...	Peddapuram	Peddapuram tank.
8. Do. ...	Lingamparti	Tiruma Raju tank.
9. Do. ...	Jagapatinagaram ...	Yeticalva tank.
10. Do. ...	Pedasankarlapudi ...	Venkandora tank.

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Appendix XV.

[Vide answer to question No. 954 asked by Mr. K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928 page 462 supra.]

Statement showing number of tanks in charge of the Public Works Department irrigating 500 acres and more in each district.

Serial number and name of district.	Number of tanks in charge of the Public Works Department irrigating 500 acres and more	Serial number and name of district.	Number of tanks in charge of the Public Works Department irrigating 500 acres and more.
1. Ganjam	5	12. Tanjore	12
2. Vizagapatam	7	13. Trichinopoly	13
3. Godavari, East	10	14. Madura	19
4. Godavari, West	10	15. Ramnad	6
5. Kistna	5	16. Tinnevelly	25
6. Guntur	5	17. Salem	9
7. Nellore	55	18. Coimbatore	11
8. Chingleput	115	19. Cuddapah	13
9. Chittoor	5	20. Anantapur	25
10. North Arcot	14	21. Bellary	7
11. South Arcot	50	22. Kurnool	7

Appendix XVI.

[Vide answer to question No. 957 asked by Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 463 supra.]

Letter, dated 4th September 1928, from the Executive Engineer, North Arcot division, Vellore.

(Kaveripauk tank.)

As the tank is many centuries old the original dimensions and capacity are not known.

The present dimensions are :—

Waterspread—about 7 square miles.

Depth	30·90	This is depth to sill of lowest sluice. It is probable that even centuries ago a leading channel would have to be dug to this depth.
Capacity, etc. ...	1,268 million cubic feet.	

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This tank is one of the largest in the Presidency, and has the advantage of being near the head of the system and of having one of the largest channels emptying directly into it; so that after every flood in the Palar the water received for this channel must first fill the tank up to the level of the weirs before it can pass to the tanks lower down. The whole trouble is due to scanty supply in the Palar and has nothing whatever to do with the dimensions of the tank. The tank was full in 1912. There are sixteen villages directly under the Kaveripauk tank; but there are many more under Ponnappan thangal and Kaveripauk surplus course which cannot be supplied until the water level in the tank rises to the level of the escapes. In 1902 Government allowed a small increase in the level of the Bettamangalam tank but this is not likely to have had very much effect in the water flowing down the river.

APPENDIX XVII.

[Vide answer to question No. 978, asked by Mr. K. R. Karant at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 473 supra.]

A public meeting of the members of the panchayat courts of the Kasaragod taluk, South Kanara, was held at 10 a.m. on Sunday the 30th September in the Co-operative building at Hosdrug, Mr. K. R. Karant, B.A., LL.B., M.L.C., presiding. There were present the following panchayat court members :—

Presidents.

1.	Mr. H. Seetharamaya	Hosdrug	Panchayat	Court.
2.	„ A. C. Kannan Nair	Ajanoor	„	„
3.	„ Potail Mohamad Beari	Udma	„	„
4.	„ Potail Mohamad Beari	Koipady	„	„
5.	„ Mohamad Kunhi Haji	Trikarpur	„	„
6.	„ M. Thymapanna Shetty ...	Uppala	„	„
7.	„ T. Vasudev Rao	Kilaikote	„	„

Members.

8.	Mr. Ishwaraya	Koipady	Panchayat	Court.
9.	„ B. Purushottam Shenoy	Ajanoor	„	„
10.	„ H. Narasimha Kamath	Hosdrug	„	„
11.	„ K. Lexumana Shenoy	Ajanoor	„	„
12.	„ Unnian Ahmad	„	„	„
13.	„ K. Vaikunta Shenoy	„	„	„
14.	„ P. Koran Nair	„	„	„
15.	„ P. Achuta Warior	„	„	„
16.	„ Govinda Kurikal	„	„	„
17.	„ Pakeera	„	„	„
18.	„ Kandapara Hussain Beari ...	„	„	„
19.	„ H. Appanna	Hosdrug	„	„
20.	„ P. V. Kalandan	„	„	„
21.	„ Udamanthale Muhammad Beari.	Trikarpur	„	„
22.	„ Ukkara Nambiar	„	„	„
23.	„ Rama Nair	„	„	„
24.	„ P. Kunhiraman Nair	„		

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Besides these Mr. S. B. Bhide, B.A., B.L., Joint Secretary of the South Kanara Landholders' Association and Vakil, Mangalore, and some members of the public were also present.

Mr. A. C. Kannan Nayar, one of the conveners of the meeting, in proposing Mr. Karant to the chair made a touching speech in Malayalam. He spoke on the unsatisfactory work of some of the members, on the step-motherly and contemptuous attitude of some of the Government officials towards the members, on the utter impossibility of carrying on the work without a proper clerk and a process server for each court, how in most cases petty amounts were being collected from the parties to defray the actual expenses, etc. In proposing Mr. Karant he said he had great pleasure in doing so inasmuch as he and the people of the district who had voted for him at the last election were extremely satisfied with his work in the Council and outside.

Mr. Kunhiraman Nayar seconded the motion, and Mr. Karant was unanimously voted to the chair.

The chairman after thanking the meeting for calling him to the chair spoke for a few minutes on his Council work and specially in regard to the resurvey and the grievances of the people in regard to the forests. On the subject of the day he said that, whether well founded or not, there was gaining ground a very serious apprehension in the minds of the public that panchayat court members were largely corrupt and that justice was not being done in these courts. He said that it was high time that they should all join together and search their hearts and see that the scandal, if true, was put an end to. On the actual difficulties felt by them in their work he said that it was for them to place them all before the meeting and discuss them so that they and he might approach the Government for their redress on something definite.

Mr. Narasimha Kamath who had worked as President for several years and now a member gave a frank expression to his experiences on the alleged corruption of members and also dwelt on the urgent need of the Government giving them one clerk and one process peon to each court with decent salary and also sufficient stationery and furniture. He instanced his own court where 25 to 30 sheets of paper were supplied by Government whilst not even 1,000 sheets would suffice for the very heavy work of the court. The result was that it was an open secret that in almost every court a fee varying from eight annas to three rupees was being collected for each plaint and if the Government wanted clean work it was for them to give clerical and other assistance which were a necessity.

Mr. H. Appanna Maistri said that the panchayat elections were a new element of discord in the villages. He would rather have Government levy openly a small and varying fee for the plaints than compel members to have recourses to dubious courses. The furniture (or the lack of it) supplied to these courts, he said, were simply a redicule He also said that for want of a proper and sufficient income the process servers were habitually making false returns so that by repeating the process they might get one anna more on each process.

Mr. K. Lexumana Shenoy stated as to how Presidents and their clerks had to dance attendance on the clerk of the District Munsif who had to be appeased by the supply of ghee or other stuff and how the su prvision meant

to be done by the Civil and Revenue officers was in actual practice being done by their clerks who, if not suitably rewarded, wrote all sorts of remarks.

Mr. Kannan Nayar agreed with Mr. Appanna that it would be more honourable for Government to levy a fee than force the panchayats to take to collecting money to meet legitimate expenditure by illegitimate means. He instanced a case in which very unjust and uncalled for remarks were made by a Revenue Divisional officer. He strongly objected to the tone and language used by these officers as if the panchayat members were the hired servants of Government.

Mr. Seshagiri Kamath suggested that the Government which was making some income by the levy of a fee of eight annas on execution petitions should bear the entire cost of the staff, stationery and furniture and not compel the litigants to bear any cost.

Mr. S. B. Bhide said that panchayat members should set before themselves the ideal of true service of the people and not grab the places for power or profit.

After a discussion on the various points touched by the various speakers in their speeches the following resolutions were unanimously passed :—

I. That with a view to improve the efficiency, usefulness to public and safeguard the prestige and fair name of the Panchayat Courts in the Kasargod taluk, the members present hereby resolve to form themselves into an association, called "The Kasargod Taluk Panchayat Members' Association".

A committee consisting of Messrs. A. C. Kannan Nayar, H. Seetharamayya, H. Narasimha Kamath, Muhammad Kunhi Jaji and M. K. Muhammad was appointed to draft a constitution and place it before the next meeting of the Association to be held at Kumbla, to which place the meeting was invited by Mr. M. K. Muhammad at 9 a.m. on Sunday, the 28th October 1928.

II. That this meeting deplores the unsatisfactory condition of the work turned out by most of the panchayat courts in the taluk and their growing unpopularity with the public, and earnestly appeals to all members to stop all evils and to strive their utmost to do justice and save the fair name of these courts.

III. That this meeting considers that it is impossible to do any satisfactory work in these courts unless Government immediately comply with the following requests :—

(a) To provide a clerk on Rs. 25 per mensem and a process-server on Rs. 12 per mensem for each panchayat court, and also sufficient stationery and furniture for all. This meeting is of opinion that this cost should be borne by Government from the 8 annas fees recovered in execution or otherwise, and if it be impossible, to levy for meeting the said expenditure, a fee not exceeding 8 annas on plaints of which the subject matter does not exceed Rs. 10, 12 annas between Rs. 10 and Rs. 20 and Re. 1 for Rs. 20 and over.

(b) To see that the inspection of books and papers relating to these courts is done by the superior officers themselves, and not allow them to have the whole thing done by their clerks who subject the members to indignities.

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(*c*) To instruct the departments concerned not to use such expressions as 'Takid or Hukum' in their correspondence with the Panchayat Presidents, which are highly resented by them, but to use respectful language.

(*d*) To provide the courts with seals, the present practice of some courts using seals and others not allowed to do so being irregular.

IV. That this meeting authorize the chairman to represent the above grievances before Government and to communicate the proceedings to the authorities and to the press.

With a vote of thanks to the chair the meeting terminated at 1 p.m.

Appendix XVIII.

[Vide answer to question No. 981 asked by Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 475 supra.]

Statement showing the different kinds of ink and the quantities thereof ordered for by the Superintendent of Stationery during the current year and the three previous years.

Description of inks.	Quantities ordered.	Names of suppliers.
1925-26.		
(*a*) Registration liquid ink	5,000 jars of 40 oz. of ink each.	Director of Industries, Madras.
(*b*) Blue-black ink powder in tins. Each tin to produce 12 oz. of ink	2,500 dozen tins ..	Do.
(*c*) Scarlet ink powder in tins. Each tin to produce 40 oz. of ink	5,000 tins	Do.
1926-27.		
(*a*) Blue-black registration liquid ink in jars of 40 oz. of ink ..	8,000 jars	Director of Industries, Madras.
(*b*) Blue-black ink powder in tins (each tin to produce 12 oz. of ink)	8,000 dozen tins ..	Do.
(*c*) Scarlet ink powder in tins (each tin producing 40 oz. of liquid ink)	1,000 tins	Do.
(*d*) Cheque writing ink	6,000 bottles of 24 oz. each.	The Bengal Industrial Company.
(*e*) Rubber stamp ink, black ..	25 gallons	Director of Industries, Madras.
(*f*) Do. violet ..	25 ,, ...	Do.
(*g*) Do. red	10 ,, ...	Do.
(*h*) Stephens blue-black ink ..	700 jars of 40 oz. each.	Director-General of Stores, London.
(*i*) Leopald Cassillas soluble blue crystals in 1 lb. tins	20 lb.	Director of Industries, Madras.
(*j*) Scarlet ink in jars of 40 oz. each.	300 jars	Do.

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Description of inks.	Quantities ordered.	Names of suppliers.
	1927-28.	
(a) Blue-black registration ink ..	7,500 jars	Alayans Ink Factory, Coimbatore.
(b) Blue-black ink powder	6,200 dozen tins ..	Do.
(c) Scarlet ink powder	3,000 tins	Director of Industries.
(d) Red ink powder, Fuschine—		
1 oz. tins	1,000 ,, ...	Do.
½ ,, ,, ...	500 ,, ...	Do.
¼ ,, ,, ...	500 ,, ...	Do.
(e) Cheque writing ink	500 bottles ..	Bengal Industrial Company.
	1928-29.	
(a) Black record registration ink ..	8,333 bottles of 24 oz. of ink each.	The Excelsior Oil and Technical Works, Poona.
(b) Blue-black ink powder in tins (each tin to produce 12 oz. of liquid ink)	8,000 dozen tins ..	The Premier Ink Works, Madras.
(c) Scarlet ink powder in tins (each tin to produce 40 oz. of liquid ink)	5,000 tins	Director-General of Stores, London.
(d) Red ink powder, Fuschine. Each ounce to produce 320 oz. of ink.	3,000 ounces ..	Do.
(e) Cheque writing ink ..	400 bottles of 26 oz. each.	Director of Industries, Madras.
(f) Rubber stamp ink, black ..	20 gallons	Do.
(g) Do. violet ..	80 Do.	The Students and General Stores, Madras.
(h) Stephens blue-black ink ..	800 jars of 40 oz. of ink.	Director-General of Stores, London.
(i) Blackwood's Rubian red ink ..	520 jars of 40 oz. each.	Do.

APPENDIX XIX.

[Vide answer to question No. 984 asked by Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 476 supra.]

G.O. No. 259, Law (Education), dated 18th February 1925.

Recorded.

2. The Government do not propose to make any change at present.

(By order of Government, Ministry of Education, etc.)

V. T. KRISHNAMA ACHARIYAR,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
Copy to the Revenue Department.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

APPENDIX XX.

[Vide answer to question No. 987 asked by Rajkumar S. N. Dorai Raja at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 477 supra.]

G.O. No. 2756, Revenue, dated 24th November 1928.

Read—the following papers:—

Memorandum to the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue and Settlement, No. 2424-E/28-1, dated 16th August 1928.

From the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue and Settlement, Ref. No. F. 5894/28-2, dated 20th November 1928.

Order—No. 2756, *Revenue, dated 24th November* 1928.

The Government have received a representation that hardship is caused to ryots who take loans under the Loans Acts by the fact that penalties are frequently levied on petty outstanding arrears even though the rules permit the remission of such penalties in deserving cases. The Board of Revenue has submitted its report on this representation after consulting some Collectors. The Government are of opinion that the rules require amendment. They direct that no penalty should be charged when the amount of arrears does not exceed Rs. 10 and that when the arrears exceed this figure it should be left to the discretion of the officers to impose or not to impose the penalty.

2. The Board of Revenue is requested to submit at an early date, draft amendments to the revised loan rules mentioned in paragraph 2 of the Board's reference read above.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

H. R. PATE,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue and Settlement.
" all Collectors.

TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

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APPENDIX XXI.

[Vide answers to question No. 990 asked by Mr. D. Narayana Raju at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th November 1928, page 478 supra.]

Reference from the Board of Revenue (L.R. and Sett.), No. H. 7221/27-3, dated 13th July 1928.

H. L. BRAIDWOOD, Esq., I.C.S.,
Commissioner of Land Revenue and Settlement.

[Assessment—Water-rate (Godavari West)—Bhimavaram taluk—Konitivada estate—Transfer from Schedule A to B—Proposals submitted.]

The Board submits for the orders of Government a copy of the appeal petition of the proprietor of Konitivada estate applying for the transfer of his estate from schedule A to B of the schedules prepared under section 1-A of the Irrigation Cess Act and appended to the notification issued in G.O. No. 1159, Revenue, dated 22nd April 1914. At present the water-cess payable on lands irrigated for the first crop is leviable from the proprietor and the proprietor's request is that it should be levied from the ryots. He says that the Konitivada estate was placed in Schedule A in 1914 because the mamul wet area had not then been localized and that the intention was to do so as soon as the area was localized and that now that the mamul wet area has been localized and a record of rights which has become final prepared determining old wet lands there is no objection to granting his request.

When the proprietor preferred a similar request in 1927 the ryots objected to the transfer on the ground that it would interfere with the contractual relations between them and the proprietor as their pattas contained a condition that in case the ryots cultivated a second crop they should pay water-cess to Government but not otherwise, that the selection of mamul wet fields made by the proprietor was not in conformity with the old accounts and that the rents of some lands that were omitted were the same as the rents of lands selected as mamul wet. The Collector did not attach any importance to these contentions. He observed that it was not to be expected that the mamul wet localization would suit every one or that the rents on the mamul wet lands would show any marked difference from those on the non-mamul wet lands and added that the consideration on which rents were fixed originally could not be traced now. He stated that the outstanding facts were that the ryots did formerly pay water-rate on the non-mamul wet area and that the proprietor had great trouble over collecting the water-rate now which has led up to much litigation and recommended that as the evidence showed that there was no contract between the proprietor and the ryots to the effect that he was responsible for the payment of water-rate, the estate should be transferred to Schedule B. He also observed that the reason why the estate was included in Schedule A in 1914 was that the mamul wet lands had not been localized then and that it was intended to put the estate in Schedule B when localization had been completed.

The Board however considered that if the Collector's proposal was accepted Government would be liable to be sued by every ryot from whom they attempted to collect water-rate and that the burden of proof would rest

on Government to show that any land on which water-rate was levied was not wet at the time of the Permanent Settlement. It therefore informed the Collector that it could not support the proposal unless there was clear evidence that the lands excluded from the mamul wet zone were not old wet. The proprietor now represents that this evidence is forthcoming in the record of rights prepared for the village and that this record of rights has become final and cannot be questioned hereafter—vide certified copy of the Sub-Court's judgment enclosed. According to the record of rights register the total extent of mamul wet lands in the village is 909·34 acres as against a mamul wet area of 931·88 recognized for the village. The remaining extent of wet lands, viz., 132·68 acres, is described as 'tirva wet' in the register, i.e., lands which are liable to pay water-cess when water is used for irrigation. This meets the difficulty anticipated by the Board before for no lands not classified as such can hereafter claim to be mamul wet and no complications will result from the transfer of the estate from schedule A to schedule B. The Board accordingly supports the proposal and submits it for the orders of Government. A preliminary notification inviting objections has to be published and it may be provided therein that objections, if any, raised by ryots should relate to individual fields.

B. G. HOLDSWORTH,
Secretary.

ENCLOSURES.

(1)

To the Hon'ble the Members of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue) Madras.

The humble memorandum of appeal of Sri Taduri Sri Rama Narasimha Rao, proprietor, Konitivada estate, Bhimavaram taluk, West Godavari, residing at Rajahmundry, against the order of the District Collector, West Godavari, dated 7th September 1927, R.O.C. No. A-2-9722/25, and received by the appellant on 11th September 1927 passed on the appellant's petitions, dated 25th May 1927, and 12th August 1927, with enclosures attached to both, requesting the transfer of the estate from schedule A to B, most respectfully showeth :—

The petitioner first applied to the Collector on 13th July 1926 to kindly recommend to the Board of Revenue and get his estate now included in schedule A of the Irrigation Cess Act, transferred to schedule B. The Collector, apparently on a Board's Proceedings Mis. No. 718, sent a memorandum, dated 25th April 1927, to the petitioner informing the petitioner that the lands cannot be transferred from A to B unless he can prove conclusively the lands that have not been selected as mamul wet are not old wet.

The petitioner submitted petitions in reply on 25th May 1927 and on 12th August 1927 to the Collector. On this the Collector passed the order now appealed against. It is submitted that the Collector should have forwarded the petitions of the petitioner to the Board and recommended the transfer, as the Collector is cognizant of the estate having been duly surveyed and settled and the record of rights for the estate having been prepared and published and had sufficient material to show that there was no old wet other than the mamul wet already classified and localized as such.

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The petitioner submits that till the year 1914, the Government was collecting the water-cess as regards the lands cultivated over and above the mamul wet area from the tenants directly and when the notification of rules for the levying of water-cess under the Irrigation Cess Act came into force in the year 1914 the village of Konitivada was classed under A schedule as there was then no localization of mamul wet. But when the village Konitivada was classed under schedule A the petitioner believes it was intended that when the localization was made it will be transferred to schedule B and the collection will be made direct from the ryots. The localization was made and approved in the year 1919 after due examination of a number of tenants, according to the proposals of the proprietor, as the Board by its Reference No. 132, dated 31st March 1894, directed that the localization was to be made according to the choice of the proprietor. But this was not given effect to immediately as the estate was being surveyed and an enquiry as regards the settlement of rents and the record of rights was going on. The register of record of rights was published in 1922 and localization was given effect to immediately after in fasli 1334 when it was possible to say which was mamul wet and which was not. After the localization was given effect to, the Collector on my application ordered the refund of the single and penal water-cess collected from me and collected the same from the tenants directly on the grounds that the irrigation of lands over and above the mamul wet area in Konitivada village carried on by the ryots is unauthorized and the water-cess single and penal for the irregular irrigation of land included in the ryots' holding should be collected from the ryots. There was an appeal by the tenants against the order of the Collector to the Board, but the Collector's order was confirmed in Board's Proceedings Routine No. 4561, dated 13th September 1926.

The petitioner then presented a petition to the Collector to change his estate Konitivada from A Schedule to B. The Collector on Board's Proceedings Mis. No. 718 sent an order, dated 25th April 1927, already referred to. The petitioner thereupon again submitted a memorandum explaining in detail how the localization was made and now it is binding on the tenants, the proprietor and the Government. The Collector, without again referring the matter to the Board, issued another order which is now appealed against. The Collector in his order now appealed against says that petitioner's request to change the classification cannot be complied with "unless he can show that the lands that have not been selected as mamul wet are not old wet."

The above two orders seem to proceed on the assumption that localization of mamul wet was not completed, whereas the localization had already been made and approved by the Collector, Kistna, in his Dis. No. 18515/19-18, dated 28th November 1919.

The lands that were localized as mamul wet were incorporated in the record of rights as finally published in the year 1922 after the resurvey of the estate, and it is now in force. There is thus no difficulty in finding out which is mamul wet and which is not. And when once the mamul wet area is localized as in the present case and incorporated in the record of rights, there is no necessity to prove which land is old wet and which is bapat wet or theeruvapallam. The tenants never objected to the localization which was adopted in the record of rights. The record of rights was prepared under

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section 166 (2) of the Estates Land Act after due notification and observance of other formalities and the tenants cannot now question the entries therein regarding classification, etc. The mamul wet lands have been so noted in the register of record of rights, and other lands usually cultivated with wet crops have been noted as 'theeruvapallam' or bapat wet lands. The tenants cannot claim under the law lands other than those noted as mamul wet in the record of rights to be mamul or old wet. Thus the record of rights is conclusive evidence of the fact that no lands not classed as mamul wet therein are old wet and the petitioner and the tenants are estopped from questioning it. The period of limitation for questioning the entries in the record of rights in a civil court has also expired. As a matter of fact, some of the tenants filed suits in the civil courts for certain corrections in the record of rights and they were held to be out of time and they were thrown out as barred by limitation.

While it is immaterial to the tenants whether they pay the water-cess which they are bound to pay, either to the proprietor or the Government, it is a great hardship to the proprietor to pay the amount to the Government first and then collect it from the tenants, particularly in view of the fact that the water is supplied to them on the application of the tenants directly made to the Government Public Works Department officers and the proprietor who is not even apprised of such applications gets no benefit whatever. There is thus a fresh contract between the Government and the tenants as regards the supply of water to bapat wet or dry lands on the individual application of the tenants and it is unfair to collect the water-cess for such irrigation from the proprietor who is not a party to the contract at all.

It is therefore prayed that, for the reasons stated above, the Government will be pleased to transfer the estate from A to B schedule and collect the water-cess if water is supplied for over and above the mamul wet zone from the tenants directly.

The petitioner prays that the Board will be pleased to send for the connected papers and the petitions filed before the Collector and read them as part of this memorandum. A list of records filed before the Collector along with the petitions is herewith annexed.

T. S. Narasimha Rao.

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(2)

IN THE COURT OF THE SUBORDINATE JUDGE OF ELLORE.

PRESENT:

M.R.Ry. S. VENKATASUBBA RAO PANTULU GARU, B.A., B.L.,
Subordinate Judge.

Thursday, the 6th day of January 1927.
Appeal No. 125 of 1926.

BETWEEN:

Rachuri Lakshminarayana Rao Pantulu Garu *Appellant (Plaintiff)*

and

(1) Sri Taduri Sree Rama Narasimha Rao Pantulu Garu, (2) Sri Taduri Sree Rama Raghavendra Rao Pantulu Garu and (3) Sri Taduri Sree Rama Bhanu Venkoji Rao Pantulu Garu *Respondents (Plaintiffs).*

On appeal from the decree of the Court of the District Munsif of Bhimavaram, dated the 30th day of January 1926, and made in O.S. No. 180 of 1924.

This appeal having been heard on the 5th day of January 1927 in the presence of Mr. Peddiraju, vakil for appellant, and of Mr. L. V. Bhadrayya, pleader for respondents, and having stood over to this day for consideration, the Court delivered the following

JUDGMENT.

This is connected with two other appeals A.S. Nos. 128 and 134 of 1926. The appellants in all the three appeals are ryots and their complaint is against the record of rights prepared by the settlement officer.

2. The only question in these three appeals is whether the suits were filed within time.

3. Under section 173, clause 2 of the Estates Land Act suits questioning the record of rights have to be filed within six months from the date of the final publication of the record of rights. Under sub-section (3) of section 170, if an appeal has been presented to revenue authorities under section 174 then within six months from the date of the disposal of such appeal the suit can be filed; it is admitted in these cases that the record of rights was finally published under section 170 on 30th April 1923. But these suits were filed in 1924 after six months from the date of the publication. Therefore, unless an appeal has been filed and was disposed of within six months from the date of the suits, they will be barred by time. Appellant Yerakaraju Venkataraju is plaintiff in O.S. No. 165 of 1924 out of which one of these three appeals arises. He alone contends that he filed an appeal to the revenue authorities. In the other two suits, it is admitted that the plaintiffs therein did not file any revenue appeals themselves. But they and

this Yerakaraju Venkataraju contend that the appeals filed to the revenue authorities were of a representative character. The appeal momorandums are not filed nor has it been proved otherwise that the appeals to the revenue authorities by other ryots were of representative character for the benefit of these appellants also. Those appeals, not being shown to be of a representative character, would not avail these appellants. Therefore, the two appeals arising from O.S. Nos. 166 and 180 of 1924 are barred and were rightly dismissed.

4. As regards Yerakaraju Venkataraju's suit O.S. No. 165 of 1924 his contention is that he filed an appeal to the revenue authorities. In support of it, he filed Exhibit II certified copy of a vakalat which contains among those who signed the vakalat a name Yerakaraju Venkataraju which is similar to the name of this plaintiff in O.S. No. 165 of 1924. But this Venkataraju examined as P.W. 3 had to admit that among the ryots of that village there are two or three people bearing the same name. Thus except his uncorroborated word, there is nothing to show that Yerakaraju Venkataraju who signed the vakalat Exhibit II was this plaintiff himself. The original of this vakalat has not been procured nor was the village munsif before whom the vakalat was executed examined to prove that this plaintiff was one of those executants. Thus beyond his own word, there is nothing to show that he filed any revenue appeal. On the other hand, the evidence of P.W. 1 Lakshminarasimham one of the three appellants in these connected suits filed an appeal to the revenue authorities. Thus it is clear that this plaintiff Venkataraju has failed to prove that he filed a revenue appeal and therefore he cannot avail himself of the latter portion of section 173, clause 2 of the Estates Land Act, as he did not file an appeal. Therefore in his case also his suit O.S. No. 165 of 1924 was filed after the period of limitation and, that was, therefore, rightly dismissed.

Thus these three appeals fail and are dismissed with costs. Pronounced in open Court, this 6th day of January 1927.

S. VENKATASUBBA RAO,
Subordinate Judge.

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TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

தமிழ்நாடு சட்டமன்றப் பேரவை
TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
வாய்மையே வெல்லும்
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

28th November 1928]

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know whether the Government have at all considered at any time, the matter contained in my question ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Certainly ; it was never absent from our consideration."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know at what stage the consideration now stands in view of the fact that the Simon Commission will be upon us within about 2½ months from now, and whether the Government have advanced any steps in that consideration beyond being merely obsessed by it, that never being absent from their minds ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I cannot indicate stages of consideration."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know if the Government have any proposals for asking anybody outside the Executive Council, the Ministers, to give evidence on behalf of the Government before the Commission ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The Government do not propose to ask the Ministers ; it is a matter for the Ministers themselves."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Do not the Government include the Ministers."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Yes."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Reforms is a reserved portfolio ; may I ask whether the Government, who are considering this matter and cannot throw light on the stages of consideration, include the transferred half also or whether ' Government ' here means reserved half, Reforms being a reserved subject ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The Government as a whole."

Evidence before the Simon Commission.

*757-B Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Ministers or any of them propose to give oral evidence before the Simon Commission ;

(b) if so, the lines of that evidence ; and

(c) whether they intend taking the opinion of the Council on those lines and, if not, why not ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The hon. the Ministers have not informed this Government of either their views or intentions on the matters referred to.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" The answer is, Sir : ' The hon. the Ministers have not informed this Government of either their views or intentions on the matters referred to." May I know what the words ' this Government ' there means ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Owing to my bad handwriting, Sir, I think ' this ' has been copied for ' the.' "

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Then, may I know, Sir, if there is a practice in the Madras Government for a part of the Government to inform the Government by means of written communications as regards certain important matters covered by this question ? "

[28th November 1928

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"The question is whether the Ministers propose to give evidence before the Commission. They have not said so or noted so, and there is nothing on record."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I know whether the hon. the Ministers are free, under the conventions and the rules under which this Government function in this province, to give evidence without reference to the Government as a whole?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"That is a constitutional question, and I should like to have notice."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I know if, as a body, the Government makes up its mind to give evidence or not to give evidence, whether the hon. the Ministers are bound by that decision or whether they are free to act?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That is asking for an opinion."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Then I will ask for a fact. May I know if in a joint consideration to which the hon. the Revenue Member referred in the answer to a previous supplementary question, the hon. the Ministers have communicated at any time any views or intentions about their giving evidence before the Simon Commission?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"The question is answered in 757-B. They have not said so."

Special allowances for members of the committee elected by the Council for conferring with the Statutory Commission.

*757-C Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the members elected by the Council for conferring with the Indian Statutory Commission have asked for the grant of any special allowances; and, if so, whether their request has been granted by the Government; and

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of the House the correspondence on the subject?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The appended[a] extract from a letter written by the Chief Secretary to Government to the Secretary of the Committee gives the information asked for.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"May I refer to the last sentence of the appendix? It says: 'The Committee, moreover, is one appointed by the Legislative Council and it appears to the Government appropriate that the allowances granted to its Chairman and Members should be those ordinarily admissible to the M.L.Cs. when employed on the work of committees so appointed.' May I know why the words 'it appears' occur there? Is it the opinion of the Government?"

The hon Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"That is the natural meaning of the words."

a Printed as Appendix I at page 361 infra.

28th November 1928]

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Have the Government consulted the Accountant-General or their legal advisers whether this allowance could be paid out of the grant appropriated for travelling allowance of members of committees of this Council ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I am not aware of any legal disability, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know if the Madras Committee has sent any further communications on this matter, after the Government's letter ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"No, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I know, Sir, if the Chairman and Members of the Committee have given an ultimatum to the Government that unless they are given this extra allowance, they will non-co-operate with the Simon Commission ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I am not aware of it, Sir."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"May I know if the Government have considered the need for awarding some solatium to the Members for the displeasure they are incurring in the country ?"

The hon Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I do not admit the implication contained in the question."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"May I know on what basis they have asked for special emoluments ? Is it to keep up their dignity as Members of the Committee or as compensation for the displeasure they are incurring in the country or for the great work they have undertaken ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"It appears they referred to the Indian Statutory Committee and I suppose they were going on that analogy."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"May I know if the Government are aware or have any idea that the Committee has asked for this increase on the ground of an honorarium for the excellent approbation they have got on the floor of this House ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"That is possible, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know if a covering letter was received along with this resolution from the Secretary or the President of the Committee ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"It was forwarded, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"Simply forwarded, or were there any amplifications ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"No, Sir."

Government Press

Educational qualifications of Mr. Magimadas, Acting Assistant Superintendent, Government Press.

*758-A Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) (i) whether one J. Magimadas, a reader in the Government Press, was appointed to act as Assistant Superintendent on Rs. 250 ;

(ii) whether the claims of one P. Sankaran Nayar, head reader on Rs. 185, a graduate in arts, were overlooked and, if so, why; and

(*b*) what are the educational qualifications of Magimadas?

A.—(*a*) (i) Yes. Mr. Magimadas was appointed as temporary non-gazetted assistant on Rs. 250 per mensem from 7th May to 5th July 1928 to do the duties of Assistant Superintendent.

(ii) No.

(*b*) Mr. Magimadas has passed the Upper primary examination, Compositor's work (elementary) and Proof-reading (intermediate).

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—"May I know from the hon. the Home Member what is the charm of this Upper primary examination that it makes a reader possessing it get over the head reader who has already been in service for more than 19 years drawing Rs. 180, and whether this Upper primary examination is the same as the Lower secondary examination?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"He possesses all the qualifications necessary for the post, and the Superintendent when he considered the qualifications of all the persons that could be appointed to the post thought that he was the best person to be appointed."

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—"Is the hon. the Home Member aware of those qualifications that made the Superintendent prefer him to a man who was getting a higher salary than this man?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"The appointment is in the hands of the Superintendent and he has used his discretion."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—"May I know, Sir, whether the man who ought to have got it was graduate and the head reader while the man promoted was in a lower grade and had absolutely no qualification?"

The hon. the President :—"The hon. Member is furnishing information."

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar :—"May I know what pay this gentleman was receiving before he was appointed to this post?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"I want notice, Sir."

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—"Did the Superintendent consider that the qualification of the other man, i.e., the graduate, was inferior to that of Mr. Magimadas in promoting the latter over the head of the former?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—As I have said, the discretion is with the Superintendent of the Government Press."

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—"May I know whether Upper primary examination equivalent to the I form?"

The hon. the President :—"That is asking for an opinion."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know whether any appeal is allowed in this case ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I do not think so."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"May I know if the Government have no powers to exercise their discretion in the matter of the powers vested in the Superintendent in these matters ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The Superintendent has the power of appointment and Government have no reason to doubt that he has misused it."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—"May I know whether the Superintendent had in his mind any of the communal Government Orders in promoting this man over the head of the other man ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I do not know what exactly he had in his mind."

Alleged petition to Government against the Publication Assistant, Government Press.

*758-B Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether a petition containing the undoings and undue influence of the Publication Assistant was presented to the Superintendent by Mr. Davis, late Deputy Superintendent, Government Press, in the year 1925 ;

(b) whether the said Mr. Davis asked the Superintendent to hold an enquiry into the allegations made in the petition, and whether the Superintendent refused ; and

(c) whether the services of Mr. Davis were terminated through the evil and undue influence of the Publication Assistant and whether Mr. Davis addressed Government to that effect, enclosing a copy of the said petition ; if so, what action was taken on the said petition and on the petition of Mr. Davis to Government ?

A.—(a) Mr. Davis presented to the Superintendent an anonymous document in which allegations were made against the Publication Assistant.

(b) Yes.

(c) After Mr. Davis' employment had been terminated, he memorialized Government making allegations against the Publication Assistant and enclosing the anonymous document. The anonymous document was ignored by Government and Mr. Davis' memorial was dismissed.

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—"In answer to clause (c) it is said that the memorial making allegations against the Publication Assistant was simply dismissed. Has the Government taken any action on that memorial or merely rejected it ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The memorial of Mr. Davis was considered and Government thought that there was no necessity to renew the agreement again."

[28th November 1928

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether it is not a fact that there is a general grievance against this Publication Assistant in the Press and whether it has not been brought to the notice of the Government and what action have they taken so far ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :— " I do not know, Sir, whether there is any general impression against him or not."

Alleged receipt of salary from the Government Press Co-operative Society by one Ramanujachari.

*758-C Q.—Dr. B. S. Mallayya : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the present cash-keeper, one Ramanujachari, a life member of the Government Press Party, is receiving a monthly salary of Rs. 30 from the Government Press Employees' Co-operative Society of which the Publication Assistant is the President, without proper sanction being obtained from Government, and if so, why ?

A.—The cash-keeper T. A. Ramanujachari is not receiving Rs. 30 per mensem from the Government Press Employees' Co-operative Society without proper sanction.

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" About this Ramanujachari drawing Rs. 30 from the Government Press Party, I should like to know whether he applied to the Government for sanction and whether the Government permitted him to draw it ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :— " Yes. He was permitted."

Appointment of P. Kannayya as foreman of the Telugu section of the Government Press.

*758-D Q.—Dr. B S. Mallayya : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether one P. Kannayya, a prominent member of the Government Press Party, has been appointed as foreman of the Telugu section of the Government Press on the recommendation of the Publication Assistant, overlooking the claims of qualified employees ; and

(*b*) whether one A. Kannayya, the foreman of the Vernacular department, has been doing the work of the said P. Kannayya, such as maintaining registers, distribution of copies, giving instructions to compositors, etc., as the latter can neither read nor write English ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Government have no information.

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" The answer says that the Government have no information. I should like to know why ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :— " These are all petty appointments which rest in the hands of the Superintendent, Government Press."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" Is it impossible to get the information when a Member of this House wants it, Sir ? "

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The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"I have given the reply already."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know, in view of the large number of questions and complaints about these matters, whether the hon. the Home Member is not prepared to get information on this point?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"I am getting information as far as I possibly can."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"On this question, may I know whether he will get the information required?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"I do not think I need get the information."

Alleged promotion of one Dravyaswami as foreman of the Type-foundry department, Government Press.

*758-E Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether one Dravyaswami, a prominent member of the Government Press Party and a junior with no technical qualifications, was promoted to the grade of Rs. 60—4—100 as foreman of the Type-foundry department, overlooking the claims of a qualified senior man in the said department; and

(b) whether he is a relative and friend of the Publication Assistant?

A.—(a) T. M. Dravyaswami was appointed as foreman, Type-foundry section, on Rs. 60—4—100 from 1st August 1926. He has a thorough practical knowledge of type-casting, stereo and electro-typing, punch-cutting and engraving works and is an intelligent worker. The Government have no information whether he is a member of the Government Press Party.

(b) The Government have no information.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA:—"Again in this case also the Government have no information. Is there any use in putting supplementary questions, I should like to know from the hon. the Home Member?"

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know whether the hon. the Home Member is aware of the fact that there is a party known as the Government Press Party?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"Yes, I know."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"If he is aware of it, may I know whether he has got a list of the members that belong to the Government Press Party in so far as they are employees of the Government?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"No, Sir."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know if he is prepared to get such a list?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"I do not think any useful purpose will be served by it."

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Alleged renting of the electrician's quarters to the Government Press Party.

*758-F Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government Press quarters purely intended for the electrician of the Government Press is rented for Rs. 5 per mensem to the Government Press Party, whereas the electrician was paying a rent of Rs. 12-8-0 per mensem; and

(b) if so, why and under what authority?

A.—(a) The building referred to was formerly required as quarters for the electrician who was paying a rent of Rs. 12-8-0 a month. The electrician asked permission to vacate the quarters and this was sanctioned. The building was then leased at Rs. 5 per mensem to the Government Press Party.

(b) Under the authority of Government, who considered this the most suitable use for the building, which was no longer required for the electrician, and that the rent was reasonable in the circumstances.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA:—"May I know what that part of the building will fetch now if it is let to the outsiders?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That is asking for an opinion."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA:—"No, Sir. Government are put to a loss. I should like to know whether the Government realize that they have made a mistake in giving this to the Party when they can easily get Rs. 30 by letting it to outsiders."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"We were receiving Rs. 12-8-0 for it. Because it is a social club, the members of which are employees of the Government Press, the Government now let it for Rs. 5 per mensem"

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA:—"Was the hon. Member entertained by this social club?

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That is not a concern of the Local Government."

Alleged preference shown by the Superintendent, Government Press, in granting leave to members of the Government Press Party.

*759-A Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Superintendent of the Government Press granted casual leave for two days in continuation of the Easter holidays to more than 25 persons of the Government Press Party to go on a pleasure trip to Ootacamund along with Mariabagiam, the Publication Assistant, the President of the Party;

(b) whether he refused to grant such leave to others who are not members of the Party even for one or two days, for illness, death and other unavoidable circumstances; and

(c) if so, what those cases are with their respective reasons for refusing the leave since January 1928?

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A.—(*a*) No; the Superintendent granted casual leave to nineteen employees of the Press in continuation of the Easter holidays to go to Ootacamund.

(*b*) No; leave has not been granted or refused with reference to membership of any association.

(*c*) There are no such cases.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Does the hon. the Home Member realize the seriousness of the mistake of leaving it to the Superintendent's discretion to give leave or no leave on certificates granted by longstanding registered medical practitioners, and is he aware that a certain employee of the Press died in the Press premises due to the indiscretion of the Superintendent? Is this discretion given to the Superintendents of all other departments? A patient suffering from typhoid fever"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am afraid the hon. Member is giving information."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" I ask the hon. the Home Member whether he is aware of the seriousness of the mistake committed by the Government in giving discretion to the Superintendent in the matter of giving leave or no leave on medical certificates?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I do not think any mistake has been made at all."

Application of rule 14 *of the Statutory Rules by Mr. Gilbert in the case of dismissals and suspensions in the Government Press.*

* 759-B *Q.*—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the procedure as to the enquiry contemplated in rule 14 of the Statutory Rules has been strictly followed or not by Mr. Gilbert, the Superintendent, Government Press, in cases of dismissals, suspensions, reductions and removals;

(*b*) if the answer be in the affirmative, the number of cases in which the enquiry under rule 14 of the Statutory Rules was held;

(*c*) if the answer be in the negative, those cases in which no enquiry was held and the reasons for the same; and

(*d*) in how many cases, in which no enquiry was held, appeals against the orders of the Superintendent were allowed and in how many they were rejected?

A.—(*a*), (*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) Whenever an enquiry is necessary under rule 14 of the Statutory Rules, there is an appeal to Government against the punishment awarded. Any person aggrieved has therefore an opportunity of bringing the matter before Government and Government consider that no practical benefit would result from the labour necessary now to obtain the information asked for.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to clause (*d*) of the question, may I know why the Government have given no answer, or what the answer is? The question is 'in how many cases in which no enquiry was held, appeals against the orders of the Superintendent were allowed and in how many they were rejected?' The answer does not say anything about the particular facts asked for in clause (*d*). May I ask for the information, Sir?"

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The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have stated the general principle. When cases come before the Government, we examine them. There have been cases in which we have passed orders against the decision of the Superintendent of the Government Press."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" The question, Sir, is : 'In how many cases in which no enquiry was held, appeals against the orders of the Superintendent were allowed and in how many they were rejected ?' That question, you will see, is not at all answered in the answer which is consolidated for all the clauses. I am asking whether the Government can now give or whether they want notice for supplying the information as regards the number of cases in which appeals were allowed and the number in which the appeals were rejected ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" If notice is given, I shall certainly supply the information."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask with regard to the answer to clause (a) of the question, the reason why no answer has been given at all ? The question is 'whether the procedure as to the enquiry contemplated in rule 14 of the Statutory Rules has been strictly followed in cases of dismissals, suspensions, reductions and removals.' The answer refers to the appeal to the Government There is no answer to the specific question of my hon. Friend from the City as to whether as a matter of fact this procedure is followed by Mr. Gilbert before he takes action in regard to dismissal, suspension, reduction or removal. May I know whether the Government can give the information now or whether they want notice ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I can give the information now. The procedure is followed."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" In every case ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Yes."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know if any appeal has been received by the hon. the Home Member stating that the procedure was not followed and whether an enquiry was held into such an appeal on that particular issue ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" No, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know how many appeals have been filed during the last year ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Notice, Sir."

Dismissals and suspensions by Mr. Gilbert as Superintendent, Government Press.

* 759-C Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(i) to furnish a comparative statement showing

(a) the dismissals, suspensions, removals and reductions made by the present Superintendent, Mr. Gilbert, during his period as Superintendent, and by the former Superintendent, Mr. Fisher, and by Mr. Green during his acting period as Superintendent ;

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(*b*) the designation, service and pay of the affected employees with reasons for each such order ;

(*c*) in how many cases the parties affected by the orders of Mr. Gilbert have appealed to Government ; and

(ii) to state whether almost all the orders of the present Superintendent were upheld by the Government ; if so, their respective reasons in each case ?

A.—(i) (*a*), (*b*), (*c*) & (ii) The Government do not consider that the labour involved in collecting the figures asked for would be justified.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" In reply to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) it is stated that 'the Government do not consider that the labour involved in collecting the figures asked for would be justified.' Sir, what Government is this ? Is it the Government of His Majesty the King-Emperor ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will kindly resume his seat."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I enquire whether a statement of these dismissals is not kept at all in the office, for there must be several dismissals, and if such a statement is kept in the office whether it would be placed on the table of this House ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I have given the reason in my answer."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Bearing on this question, a resolution was passed in this House, and the Government's reply was 'we do not accept.' Here we ask questions and even pass resolution. But what is the good of it all ? I asked a number of supplementary questions and the Government do not consider. I should like to know from the hon. the Home Member whether this Government is British Government or the Government of Dost Muhammad or Chengiz Khan or Mubarack ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question does not arise out of this."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" In the answer it is stated, 'the labour involved will not be justified.' Why is any new labour necessary ? Are not the statistics already in the office ? "

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know from the hon. the Home Member, in view of the fact that there is so much complaint, whether he does not consider the collection of facts necessary and whether he has declined to collect these figures, because it is inconvenient, either for Mr. Gilbert, the Superintendent, or for the Government ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Mr. Gilbert is no longer the Superintendent of the Government Press."

Alleged disregard of medical certificates for leave produced by P. Muniswami and Rangaswami, machine-minders in the Government Press.

* 759-D *Q.*—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the medical certificates produced by one P. Muniswami and one K. P. Rangaswami, machine-minders, Government Press, Mint

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Buildings, from the Rayapuram Hospital were disregarded by the Superintendent, and whether the periods covered by the certificates were treated as absence without leave; and

(b) if so, why?

A.—The Government have no information. The discretion to refuse leave is reserved by rule to the Superintendent, Government Press.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"There again, Sir, in regard to leave, I should like to know what made the Government give him that absolute discretion for granting leave?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Under the existing rules, heads of departments have got the discretion."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"In the discharge of such discretion, if calamities occur, who is responsible? Is it the Superintendent or the Government?"

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have no power at all if the discretion is misused or proved to be misused?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"If specific instances are brought to my notice, I am prepared to look into them."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"Does not the hon. the Home Member consider that these are two specific cases brought to the notice of Government? Two men produced medical certificates from certain hospitals and yet leave was not granted. Does the hon. Member think that these two cases are not sufficient? Will the Government at least now, after so many complaints and after specific instances, take the trouble of inquiring into the matter?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"There is no necessity for an enquiry. It is in the discretion of the Superintendent to accept the medical certificate or not."

Police

Proposed creation of posts in the Imperial Cadre in the Police department.

*760-A Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the scheme of Mr. Cunningham for the re-organization of the City Police provides for the creation of any Imperial Officers' posts either permanently or temporarily;

(b) if so, whether the Government have obtained the sanction of the Secretary of State for the creation of any such Imperial Officers' posts;

(c) whether it is a fact that even for creating temporary posts of an Imperial cadre with the intention of ultimately making the same permanent the Secretary of State has ruled that his sanction is necessary; and

(d) whether the Secretary of State has ruled that every new post created in the Imperial cadre should be listed for the Provincial Police?

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A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Mr. Cunningham's proposals are now under the consideration of the Government. They are not prepared to disclose the details at this stage.

(*c*) The previous sanction of the Secretary of State in Council is necessary to the increase of the cadre of an all-India Service whether permanent or temporary.

(*d*) Additions to the cadre should be accompanied by a corresponding increase in the number of 'listed' posts, until the prescribed number of listed posts (viz., 20 per cent of the superior posts) is reached.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"In the second sentence of the answer to (*a*) and (*b*) it is stated 'The Government are not prepared to disclose the details at this stage.' May I know the reasons why Government are not prepared to answer specific questions as to whether Mr. Cunningham's proposals included or provided for the creation of any Imperial Officers' posts?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"It is still in the confidential stage and is being considered by Government. We have not yet come to any conclusion and after we come to any conclusion it would be possible for us to disclose it.'

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know whether the hon. the Home Member will give an opportunity to this House before passing final orders, as it may involve a lot of money, to give its views on the matter?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The scheme will be placed before the Finance Committee and will ultimately come before the Legislative Council."

Proposed creation of the post of a Deputy Traffic Commissioner for Madras City.

*760-B Q.—Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal before the Government to create a Deputy Traffic Commissioner for the City of Madras; if so, by whom the proposal has been made and whether a copy of the proposal will be placed on the table;

(*b*) whether the Government propose to compare the statistics of motor vehicles, taxis, buses and other vehicles; motor and hackney licences; motor and other accidents in the cities of Calcutta, Bombay, Rangoon and Colombo with that of Madras; if so, whether a copy of statistics will be placed on the table; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that only a Deputy Superintendent is employed to be in charge of traffic in other cities?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government are now considering certain proposals of the Commissioner of Police for the reorganization of the Madras City Police. They are therefore unable to answer the questions at this stage.

(*c*) The Government believe that an officer of the Indian Police Service of the rank of Superintendent of Police is in charge of Motor Vehicles Department in Rangoon. As regards other cities they have no information.

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Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" In answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) it is stated that the Government are unable to answer the questions at this stage. May I know when they will be able to answer the questions and at what stage ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " After we come to a conclusion."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" May I know, Sir, when will that be ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I cannot say, Sir."

Reorganization of the Madras City Police.

* 760-C Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have passed orders on the recommendations of the Commissioner of Police, Madras, on the reorganization of the City Police ;

(*b*) if not, when they propose to do so ;

(*c*) whether the Commissioner of Police has ever inquired into the question whether the Indian members of the police force in Madras of all ranks are paid a living wage ;

(*d*) if not, whether the Government propose to call upon him to make such an enquiry with a view to submit proposals for raising their salaries to correspond to a living wage ; and

(*e*) if not, why not ?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The proposals are under the consideration of the Government.

(*c*) The Government have no information as to inquiries of the Commissioner of Police on this point.

(*d*) & (*e*) The Government see no reason to suppose that the Commissioner is not capable of taking the initiative in the matter if necessary. At present, the Government see no reason to suppose that the Indian members of the force are, generally speaking, underpaid.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to clause (*c*) of my question, may I know whether, since the receipt of my question by Government, the Government took any steps to ascertain whether the Commissioner of Police has enquired whether the Indian members of the Police force are paid a living wage ; if not, why not ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I have not heard the hon. Member, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" The question is whether the Commissioner of Police ever enquired into the question whether the Indian members of the Police force in Madras are paid a living wage. The answer given is 'The Government have no information as to enquiries of the Commissioner of Police on this point.' I am asking whether, since the receipt of the question by Government, any steps were taken by the Government to find out if the Commissioner of Police has made any enquiry on the lines suggested ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" As I have said before, the report is before the Government and we are considering it. If the Government feel that they ought to get information on this matter, we shall certainly do so."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to the answers to clauses (*d*) and (*e*) of my question, the answer is 'the Government see no reason to suppose that the Indian members of the force are, generally speaking, underpaid.' May I know what are the grounds on which the Government have come to this conclusion that the Indian members are not underpaid? May I know the grounds on which they have come to such conclusion?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Because we have received no representations to the effect till now."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Does Government undertake, in case they get representations from Indian members of the police force, to ask the Commissioner of Police to enquire?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is a hypothetical question."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether the Police force threatened to strike some time back if their pay was not increased?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—I am not aware of it."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, if the subordinate members of the police staff are permitted to make representations in their collective capacity?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I want notice, Sir."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" In the answer it is stated that the Government see no reason to suppose that the Indian members of the force are generally speaking, underpaid. Have they come to that conclusion after carefully examining the question or is it simply their supposition?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" It is not a supposition, but a matter of fact."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know, Sir, on what basis that 'matter of fact' is based, apart from the absence of representation?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Taking into consideration what salary we give to such men in other services."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" Does Government seriously consider that the pay of the ordinary constable or head constable is sufficient or a living wage under present conditions?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It has been answered."

Proposals for the reorganization of the Madras City Police.

*760-D *Q.*—Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the reorganization proposals of the Commissioner of Police are calculated to relieve the Commissioner of all direct charge of every department now under him and of a good deal of traffic work; and

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(*b*) whether it is one of the proposals before the Government that the Commissioner need not be paid any special allowances for inspection of motor buses ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government are not prepared to disclose at present the details of the proposals now under their consideration.

Present pay of Sergeants and Sub-Inspectors.

* 760-E *Q*.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what was the pay recommended by the Police Commission of 1902 for Sergeants and Sub-Inspectors in Madras and other places ;

(*b*) what is the pay that they now actually draw ; and

(*c*) whether the minimum pay of the Sub-Inspectors is less than what was fixed in 1902 ?

A.—(*a*) The Police Commission of 1902–03 recommended pay for Sergeants and Sub-Inspectors as follows :—

Sergeants—Rs. 80—5/2—110 in Madras and Rs. 80, 90, 100 in the mufassal.

Sub-Inspectors—Rs. 75, 100, 125 in Madras and Rs. 50, 60, 70, 80 in the mufassal.

(*b*)

Madras City.	Mufassal.
Sergeants.	
Rs. 110, 122½, 135 and 1 on Rs. 145	Rs. 100, 112½, 125
Sub-Inspectors.	
Rs. 85, 100, 125, 135, 150.	Rs. 60, 75, 100, 110, 125.

(*c*) No.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" Do the Government consider that the duties of sergeants are more onerous than those of Sub-Inspectors ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" They have different duties to discharge."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know how they are different ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I want notice in order to give exact details of their work."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to say whether the sergeants come on duty only after sun-set and before sun-rise ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" No, Sir."

Proposed pay of Sergeants and Sub-Inspectors.

* 760-F *Q*.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state what is the proposed pay for Sergeants and Sub-Inspectors under the contemplated scheme of Mr. Cunningham for the mufassal and for the City ?

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A.—Mr. Cunningham's proposals are under the consideration of the Government. They are not prepared to disclose the details at this stage.

Transfer to the mufassal of Sub-Inspectors of the City Police.

*760-G Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Commissioner of Police has recommended the transfer to the mufassal of several Sub-Inspectors of the City Police;

(*b*) whether they have been recruited under the City Police Act for service in the City;

(*c*) whether they are on a different scale of pay as compared with that of the mufassal Sub-Inspectors;

(*d*) whether any of these Sub-Inspectors have been recommended for transfer as a punishment on any specific charge; and

(*e*) if not, how the Government justify under the Fundamental Rules the reduction in their pay?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*d*) The Government have no information; they have called for it.

(*c*) The pay of each grade of City Sub-Inspector of Police has been fixed at Rs. 25 more than that of the corresponding grade of mufassal Sub-Inspector.

(*e*) The answer to this clause depends on the information called for in respect of clause (*d*).

Selection of Sub-Inspectors of Police by the Commissioner.

*760-H Q.—Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that out of 21 candidates recently selected by the Commissioner of Police, Madras, for the posts of Sub-Inspectors of Police, nine non-Brahmans, six Brahmans, two Christians, three members of depressed class and one Muslim have been taken;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that to give its due share to every community, the Government have directed in their G.O. Mis. No. 747, dated 3rd September 1928, that future recruitment in the services shall be made in the following proportion and order (i.e.), out of every twelve posts, five non-Brahmans (Hindus), two Brahmans, two Muhammadans, two Anglo-Indians and Christians including Europeans and one from the others (including depressed class);

(*c*) if the answer to the above is in the affirmative, why only one Muslim was selected for the Sub-Inspector's post by the Commissioner of Police; and

(*d*) whether, in view of this apparent injustice done to the Muslims, the Government propose to hold an enquiry into the matter and redress the grievances?

A.—(*a*) The Government are not aware whether or no these figures are correct. If the hon. Member desires it the information he gives in his question will be verified.

(*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) G.O. No. 747, Public, dated 3rd September 1928, does not refer to recruitment for the Madras Police Service. The rules for that service have not yet been issued.

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Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—" In the answer it is stated that the 'Government are not aware whether or no these figures are correct'. Will they care to ascertain whether these figures are correct now at least ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I shall enquire."

Revision of the pay of police constables in the City.

*761-A *Q.*—Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that most of the sergeants are not literate and cannot even properly write and read English ;

(*b*) whether the Government are aware that in cities like Colombo, Shanghai, Hongkong and Bombay with a large European population, Indian ex-Military officers are appointed as sergeants on a lesser pay than here, without prejudice to efficiency or success ;

(*c*) if so, why the same system is not followed in Madras ;

(*d*) whether Mr. Cunningham's contemplated scheme of the revision of pay of the European subordinates alone has created considerable discontent amongst Indian constabulary and other subordinate officers ;

(*e*) whether the constables have been agitating for more pay during the last many years and especially in 1927 and whether they threatened even to strike ; and

(*f*) whether since these reorganization proposals were published in a local paper a persistent and anonymous propaganda by letters and posters and post cards has been carried on by the constabulary not to receive their pay and finally to strike till the question of their pay is considered before the question of the sergeants' pay is decided ?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) & (*c*) The Government have no information regarding Shanghai, Colombo or Hongkong. In Bombay there is a force of 60 Sergeants employed on duties similar to those of the Sergeants in Madras.

(*d*) The hon. Member is in error in suggesting that the European subordinates alone would benefit under the Commissioner's proposals. The Government are not aware of any discontent amongst the constabulary or other police subordinates in the City.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) There have been some attempts to undermine the loyalty of the force but there is no information that these letters, etc., emanated from members of the force.

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*d*) of this question, may I know whether the Indian subordinates are likely to benefit by these proposals and if so to what extent ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I am unable to disclose at this stage what the proposals are, since they are under the consideration of Government."

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Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*d*) of the question, may I know whether the Government have allowed any channel for the expression of discontent of the constabulary or police subordinates in the city ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" Notice, Sir."

Alleged threatening of police constables agitating for revision of pay.

* 761-B· *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. Swami : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that orders have been issued by the superior police officers especially in the City of Madras threatening with instant dismissal those constables who agitate for revision of pay ;

(*b*) whether such notices have been posted on the notice boards of each police station ; and

(*c*) whether a constable in Vepery division has been dismissed as he was suspected of having expressed his grievance to an important Political Leader ?

A.—(*a*) No.
(*b*) No.
(*c*) No.

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar :—" May I know whether any constable has been dismissed at all in the Vepery division recently ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" Notice."

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar :—" May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether there is any charge against any constable that he has given information to an important political leader ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" Notice, Sir."

Proposed creation of the post of a Coroner for Madras City.

* 762-A *Q.*—Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is proposed to employ a Coroner for the City of Madras ;

(*b*) if so, on what salary and on what terms ; and

(*c*) what will be the recurring and non-recurring expenditure involved in the creation of such an office ?

A.—(*a*) No.
(*b*) & (*c*) Do not arise.

Statistics of inquests in Calcutta, Bombay and Rangoon.

* 762-B *Q.*—Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government have statistics of inquests in the cities of Calcutta, Bombay and Rangoon and place the same on the table ?

A.—The Government have no information.

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—" In the answer it is stated that Government have no information. Will the Government at least now call for the information, Sir."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I shall consider the suggestion."

Acting appointments in the selection grade to officers of the Provincial Police Service.

*763-A Q.—Mr. K. R. Karant : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) why the concession of giving acting appointments in the selection grade to the officers of the Provincial Police Service is not shown when it is within the power of the Local Government to do so ; and

(b) whether the Government propose to take action in this direction ?

A.—(a) & (b) It is not within the power of the Local Government to permit acting appointments in the selection grade of the Provincial Police Service.

Mr. K. R. Karant :—" With reference to the answer given, may I ask in whose power it is to permit acting appointments in the selection grade of the Provincial Police Service ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" It is a power vested in the Government of India."

Listing of posts of District Superintendents of Police.

*763-B Q.—Mr. K. R. Karant : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what progress has been made in the listing of District Superintendents of Police's posts for the Deputy Superintendents of Police and whether any programme has been drawn up ; and

(b) whether the Lee Commission recommended the increase of these posts by four and whether any post has been listed in pursuance of the said recommendation ?

A.—(a) & (b) The Lee Commission's recommendation was in effect to raise the number of listed posts by three to a total of eight posts. Five officers have already been promoted from the Provincial Police Service. No programme has been drawn up.

Listing of posts of Deputy Superintendents of Police.

*763-C Q.—Mr. K. R. Karant : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government during the late Law Member's time promised the deputation of the Deputy Superintendents of Police that they would take steps immediately for the listing of District Superintendents of Police's posts for Deputy Superintendents of Police and whether any action has been taken since then ;

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(b) whether the Government of India in December 1927 communicated to the Local Governments the order of the Secretary of State listing more posts of District Superintendents of Police for Deputy Superintendents of Police, and whether the Government will place a copy of the order on the Council Table;

(c) whether any effect has been given to this order; and

(d) if not, when and how the Government propose to give effect to the same?

A.—(a) The Government are not aware of any such promise.
(b) No.
(c) & (d) Do not arise.

Vacancies in the selection grade appointments in the Provincial Police Service.

*763-D Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether acting appointments are made to posts in the selection grade in the Imperial Police;

(b) whether such appointments are also made to posts in the selection grade in the Provincial Police; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the three selection grade appointments in the Provincial Police are virtually vacant in view of the fact that the officers in the selection grade always act as District Superintendents of Police?

A.—(a) Yes.
(b) No.
(c) No.

Appointment of Deputy Superintendents of Police.

*763-E Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Messrs. Srinivasa Sastri, Nargunam, Walton and Venkataramanujam have been recently appointed Deputy Superintendents of Police;

(b) whether these officers were tried as Deputy Superintendents of Police during the time of Messrs. Thomas and Armitage and reverted; if so, on what grounds;

(c) whether the Government have called for and perused the papers ordering their reversions before re-appointing them; and

(d) whether there are any other Deputy Superintendents of Police who have been continuously acting for the last four or five years and if so, whether their claims will be taken into consideration in preference to these three gentlemen?

A.—(a) Yes.
(b) & (c) The Government cannot answer the questions. Recommendation rolls are strictly confidential.
(d) (1) Yes.
(2) Government cannot promise now to give a preference to one particular man over another.

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Vacancy in the selection grade in the Police service.

*763-F Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that promotions to the selection grade in the Imperial Police Service are made even though the vacancy is a very short one;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that a selection grade vacancy in the Provincial Police has been kept vacant for over two years, and why;

(*c*) whether any such vacancy has been allowed to exist in any other Provincial service for such a period;

(*d*) whether a definite recommendation was made by Mr. Armitage in 1926 to fill up this vacancy; and

(*e*) whether there is any discontentment among the Senior Deputy Superintendents of Police by keeping vacant a permanent vacancy in the selection grade?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes, because the Local Government have no power under Fundamental Rule 30 to make acting appointments in the selection grade.

(*c*) This will be answered after ascertaining the facts.

(*d*) The Government must decline to answer this question; recommendation rolls are strictly confidential.

(*e*) The Government are not aware of any discontent among the senior Deputy Superintendents of Police.

Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"I wish to ask with reference to the answer to clause (*b*) whether this Government have moved the Government of India to make these appointments for the vacancies, and if not, why not?"

The hon Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I think the Government did so, and the Government of India turned down our proposal."

Opening of a Police outpost at Neiveli.

*764 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the residents of Neiveli and other villages in the Tiruvallur taluk in the Chingleput district have petitioned the Inspector-General of Police and the District Superintendent of Police, Chingleput, to put up a Police outpost at Neiveli;

(*b*) whether the distance between Neiveli and Pennalur Pettai where the Police Station is situated is about 17 miles; and

(*c*) whether the Government will consider the advisability of opening a Police outpost at Neiveli?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The distance is about 11 miles.

(*c*) They do not see any justification for an outpost at Neiveli.

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Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—" Will the Government at least now consider the advisability of including this village under the Tiruvallur police sub-station, considering the fact that it is nearer to Tiruvallur than to Pennalur Pettai ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :— " I want notice, Sir."

Military

Notification regarding messing allowance to military officers.

*765 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state with reference to the notification in the Army department at pages 1414–1419 of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 25th September 1928, whether the messing allowance of 10 annas per month mentioned on page 1418 in Schedule III—Provincial Units, for junior officers, non-commissioned officers and men is correct or whether there is any error in the republication of the notification?

A.—There is no error in the republication of the notification.

Pensions

Payment of pensions to pensioners in Trichinopoly district.

*766 Q.—Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that till August 1928 the pensioners in the Trichinopoly district were paid their pensions on the 1st or 2nd of every month ;

(*b*) whether the Collector of the district has issued an order to commence payment of pensions only from the 4th of every month ;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that a similar trouble arose regarding the payment of pensions to the pensioners in that district in 1924, and whether the Government then passed an order cancelling the then Collector's order ; and

(*d*) whether the Government will be pleased to pass a similar order at present also and, if not, why ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government are not aware whether the facts are as suggested. A report has been called for.

(*c*) & (*d*) A representation was made to the Government in November 1923 in connexion with the dates of payment of pension in the Trichinopoly sub-treasury. After obtaining a report on the subject, the Government passed orders allowing the Collector to use his discretion in the matter.

Mr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*c*), will the Government be pleased to cancel the orders allowing the Collector to use his discretion in the matter of payment of pensions, having regard to the fact that the pensioners are old ? "

The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir :—" The Government do not propose to withdraw discretion vested in an officer unless it can be shown that he has abused it."

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Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar:—"May I know whether the Government will be pleased to place the copy of the report when it is received on the table of this House?"

The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir:—"I can give the information now. There is a division of pensioners and those pensioners who are drawing Rs. 10 or less, must be paid on the 2nd or the 3rd working day, and those getting above Rs. 10 on the 4th and 5th working days."

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar:—"May I know the reason why this is being done?"

The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir:—"In order to avoid congestion in the treasury; when all pensioners come on the same day, many have to go away without having to draw their pension. As it was thought to be a convenient arrangement, this procedure was adopted."

Mr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva:—"May I know whether the Government will be pleased at least to direct that the pensioners are paid on the 2nd or 3rd of the month?"

The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir:—"I am afraid, it is impossible. As the staff is limited, and the work is heavy if the work is not divided, it simply means that pensioners will come and have to go away without getting their pension. If the work is spread over four or five days, some pensioners will be paid on the earlier days and others subsequently."

Railways

Alleged inconveniences of third-class lady passengers in Bengal and Nagpore and other railways.

*767-A *Q.*—Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received complaints about the difficulty and inconvenience experienced by the lady passengers specially in third-class in the Bengal and Nagpur Railway, Madras and Southern Mahratta and South Indian Railway Companies in purchasing tickets along with men;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that ladies in many cases are being cheated by others as they are not themselves able to purchase tickets;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that tickets are sold just a few minutes before the arrival of the train both for men and women at the same place and generally by one clerk; and

(*d*) whether the Government have taken any action in the matter by addressing the Railway Board?

A.—The Government have not received any complaints of the kind referred to. The matter is one which the hon. Member might bring to the notice of the Local Advisory Committees of the Railways concerned.

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Alleged inconveniences due to the modifications in Guntakal Railway station.

*767-B Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received complaints about the inconveniences to the travelling public caused by the modifications carried out at the Guntakal station, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, and if not, whether they will cause an enquiry to be made;

(b) whether there is any waiting shed or water tap near the present booking office;

(c) whether the booking office will be provided on the overbridge as in Chalapur and if not, why not;

(d) whether the trains arriving at and starting from the stations are fully under covered platforms and if not, what those trains are which are not so;

(e) the number of platforms at the station and whether each is provided with an Indian refreshment stall; and

(f) whether the overbridge is far off from the platforms to the inconvenience of the travelling public?

A.—The Government have not received any complaints about the inconveniences referred to. The matter is one which the hon. Member might well bring to the notice of the Local Advisory Committee of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway.

Supply of drinking water at Nandyal railway station.

*767-C Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Railway station of Nandyal in the Kurnool district was hitherto served by a copious supply of water pumped from the Kundu river and supplied through a pipe;

(b) whether it is a fact that that practice has been now discontinued;

(c) why it was so discontinued;

(d) whether at present water is supplied to the passengers at train time by a water-carrier from whom certain classes may not accept water; and

(e) whether any further scheme for a free and copious supply of water as usual through a pipe is under contemplation?

A.—The Government have no information. The matter is one which the hon. Member might bring to the notice of the Local Advisory Committee of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway.

Alleged inordinate delays in the suburban train service.

*768 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received complaints about the inordinate delays in the suburban train service between Madras Beach and Pallavaram and the consequent inconveniences to the travelling public; and

(b) what steps they propose to take to set aright the defective service?

A.—(a) No.

(b) A copy of the interpellation will be forwarded to the Agent, South Indian Railway.

Travelling Allowance Rules

Amendment to rule 97 of the Travelling Allowance Rules.

*769 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state with reference to G.O. No. 531, Finance, dated 3rd August 1928, regarding amendment to Travelling Allowance Rules—

(*a*) the reasons for deleting the old rule 97-A, inserting the new rule 96-A and adding the new paragraph at the end of 97 (*a*); and

(*b*) the financial effect of these changes?

A.—(*a*) The old rule provided for expenses only in cases where a railway journey was involved. The Government considered that the same rule should apply to other journeys also. They have therefore issued the new rule 96-A.

(*b*) The Government have not sufficient experience of the new rules to estimate their financial effect.

Civil Justice

Appointment of an additional Sub-Judge in South Arcot.

*770 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any report has been received from the High Court with regard to the congestion of work in the Sub-Court and District Court, South Arcot; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to appoint an additional Sub-Judge to relieve the same and if so, when?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The question of appointing an Additional Sub-Judge to the Sub-Court, Cuddalore, is under the consideration of Government.

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"May I know from the hon. the Law Member whether since this answer was given, any further orders were passed by Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"After this answer was framed, Government passed an order for the appointment of an additional Sub-Judge in Cuddalore from 1st December."

Jails

Release of Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon.

*771-A Q.—Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how long Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon has been in the jail now;

(*b*) whether the Government propose to consider the question of his release;

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(*c*) whether he thinks that the situation in Malabar now is such as to make the presence of Mr. Narayana Menon dangerous; if so, what are the facts that warrant it;

(*d*) whether the Government are prepared to redeem the promise it made through its late Law Member that it will sympathetically consider the question of his release if two of his friends give an undertaking as suggested by the Government;

(*e*) whether, if section 401 of the Criminal Procedure Code stands in the way of the Government redeeming the said pledge, Government was not aware of that section when the promise was made; and

(*f*) whether the Government or His Excellency the Governor has no power to release a convicted person irrespective and independently of section 401, Criminal Procedure Code; and if they have, why such powers are not exercised in favour of Mr. Narayana Menon?

A—(*a*) Since 25th September 1922.

(*b*) Yes; if he gives the undertaking which he was required to give.

(*c*) Mr. Narayana Menon is not a State prisoner, but one convicted by a court of law. So, his release does not depend entirely on the conditions of Malabar.

(*d*) Yes; if Mr. Narayana Menon gives the undertaking required by Government.

(*e*) Government were aware of the section.

(*f*) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The second part does not arise.

Mr. K. Madhavan Nayar:—"In answer to (*d*) did not the late Law Member make this House understand that no undertaking from Mr. Narayana Menon is necessary but that it is enough if two of his friends gave the undertaking?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. Daniel Thomas:—"Are not the Government aware that under the Criminal Procedure Code they cannot release a prisoner without any condition?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"Government have power."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya:—"Did not Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar put two questions to the then Law Member and elicit the information that Mr. Narayana Menon would be released on the surety of two of his friends?"

The hon. the President:—"The question is not admissible."

Mr. S. Satyamurti:—"May I know Sir, whether, as at present advised, the Government will not consider the question of the release of Mr. Narayana Menon unless he himself gives an undertaking as required by the Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"That is so."

Mr. K. Madhavan Nayar:—"If as a matter of fact the late Law Member had given an assurance that Government would release Mr Narayana Menon on the surety of two of his friends, may I know if the Government will release him now if two of his friends stand as surety?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"I am not prepared to answer a hypothetical question."

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know why the Government refuse to release Mr. Narayana Menon without an undertaking from himself ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR .—" Because Government think that an undertaking from him is necessary."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Sir I am asking for the reasons."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" According to the Criminal Procedure Code Government can, with or without a condition release a prisoner, and in the present case they consider that they cannot release him unconditionally."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" May I know whether this Government is prepared to redeem its pledges ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :— " Government are not aware of any pledges given."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" May I know what makes the Government vindictive ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" They are not at all vindictive."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know the reason why the Government should insist on one set of conditions alone when there is another set of conditions ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Because my friend must be aware that the Criminal Procedure Code contemplates that the undertaking must be given by the prisoner himself."

Health of Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon.

* 771-B Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon who is now confined in the Penitentiary had to undergo a serious operation in the throat ;

(b) whether his health is bad and gives room for anxiety ; and

(c) whether he has further decreased in weight recently ?

A.—(a) No. He had granular Pharyngitis and these granules were cauterized.

(b) His health is excellent and there is no cause for anxiety.

(c) No. On the other hand he is gaining in weight. His weight on the 15th January 1928 was 112 lb. and his weight on 21st October 1928 was 128 lb.

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know the weight of Mr. Narayana Menon when he was admitted into the jail ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" If my hon. friend refers to 22nd September 1922, I want notice."

Spinning of yarn in jails.

* 772 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of men and women confined in jails during last year ;

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(b) the number of men and women in jails employed in hand-spinning last year;

(c) the quantity of yarn that is ordinarily required for jail purposes if the whole of the cloth required is made of this yarn; and

(d) how much of it is now prepared in the jails themselves?

A.—(a) The total number of men and women confined in jails at the close of last year was 18,229—

Men	17,943
Women	286

(b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1663 given at the meeting of 2nd March 1928.

(c) The quantity of yarn that is ordinarily required for jail purposes is roughly 350,000 lb. of twist of different counts, e.g., 6's, 10's, 2/20's, $8\frac{1}{2}$'s, etc.

(d) Nil.

Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—" May I know Sir, whether the Government will see that all the yarn required for the jails is prepared in the jails themselves?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I shall consider whether it is possible."

Revision of the Jail Manual.

*773 Q.—Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Jail Manual has been revised and brought up to date; and

(b) when the Manual is likely to be published?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The revised Manual is now being printed in the Government Press.

Marine

Exports and imports at Cuddalore O.T. and Porto Novo.

*774 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that cargo boats and steamers usually call at or near Cuddalore O.T. and Porto Novo either for import or export of goods;

(b) if so, what is the annual value and tonnage of the exports or imports at the aforesaid ports and what is the nature of the goods so imported or exported;

(c) whether it was at any time contemplated to make Porto Novo a harbour for exporting and importing cargo and, if so, whether he will place on the table the details of the scheme contemplated and copies of the correspondence, if any, on this subject;

(d) whether the idea to make Porto Novo a harbour for the calling of cargo boats and steamers is still under the consideration of the Government or kept in abeyance or abandoned;

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(*e*) whether the Government will reinvestigate into the question of making Porto Novo a harbour and undertake necessary measures to develop the same into a suitable harbour ; and

(*f*) whether the merchant community at Porto Novo have at any time made representation to the Government to make Porto Novo a harbour and, if so, what action the Government have taken on their representations ?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The information is contained in the Annual Statement of the Seaborne Trade and Navigation published by the Customs Department.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Does not arise in view of the answer to the previous question.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) No.

Education

Alleged representation from the Andhra University regarding State scholarships for Post-graduate studies in England.

*775 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representation has been made by the Andhra University that one of the two State scholarships for Post-graduate studies in England awarded on the recommendation of the Madras and Andhra Universities should be transferred to the administration of the Andhra University ; and

(*b*) if so, what the Government have proposed to do in the matter ?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The question is under consideration.

Reorganization of the Subordinate Educational Service.

*776 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the proposed scheme for the reorganization of the Subordinate Educational Service in the province is ready, and if so, whether the same will be placed on the table ; and

(*b*) if not, when the scheme will be ready, and what are the reasons for the delay ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Proposals for the reorganization of the Subordinate Educational Service are now under the consideration of the Government. The question of placing them on the table of the House will be considered when final orders are passed.

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Number of headmasters of Government high schools in the Provincial cadre.

*777 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state how many of the headmasters of the Government high schools, both Muslim and non-Muslim, are in the Provincial cadre and how many among them are Muslims and in what scale of pay?

A.—By the expression 'provincial cadre' the hon. Member apparently refers to the cadre of the Madras Educational Service. Six posts of headmasters of Government high schools and school departments of Government colleges are included in the above cadre. One of these posts is held by a Muslim. The pay of officers of this cadre is Rs. 250—25—500 (efficiency bar)—50—800.

Local Boards

Repairs to the road between Sanavasapur and Tekkalakota.

*778 Q.—Mr. R. Nagan Gowda: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the major part of the road between Sanavasapur and Tekkalakota on the Bellary-Sirugappa road is in a very bad condition and unfit for motor traffic;

(b) whether there are more than half-a-dozen buses plying on that road; and

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps in the interests of safety to the travelling public to have this road mended and repaired immediately?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) It is the duty of the District Board to restore the road to a satisfactory condition and it has been asked to take early steps to do so.

Alleged bad condition of roads under Raya and Bella channels in Hospet taluk.

*779 Q.—Mr. R. Nagan Gowda: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government are aware that

(i) the roads in the wet land areas under Raya and Bella channels in Hospet taluk are quite unfit for use during a great part of the year and especially during the rainy seasons; and

(ii) the road from Hospet Railway station to Basavanadurg through Belogodu and the road from Chitwadgi to Ippethevuru and the Hosur road are especially bad?

A.—The Government have no information.

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Municipal Councils

Postponement of the election of Chairman to Tenali municipality.

*780 Q.—Mr. P. Anjaneyulu : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have passed orders approving of the postponement of the election of Chairman, Tenali municipality, till the 1st of November whereas the present Chairman vacates office by the 6th of October ;

(b) if the answer to the above question is in the affirmative, at whose request this order was passed, and whether the Tenali Municipal Council is in favour of the postponement ; and

(c) what prompted him to pass such orders ?

A.—(a) The Government passed no orders in the matter, but stated that they had no objection to the postponement proposed by the outgoing Chairman which would have enabled five newly elected members whose membership only dates from the 1st November an opportunity of participating in the election.

(b) & (c) A majority of the members of the Tenali Municipal Council were in favour of the postponement.

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—" As regards the answer to clause (a), may I know Sir, whether the proposal of the outgoing Chairman to postpone the election to the 1st November had the support of any resolution of the Council at the time ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" No, Sir."

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—" As regards (b) & (c), may I know whether the proposal emanated from the outgoing Chairman ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—" May I know whether the Government accept that statement to be correct ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" Government have reason to believe it to be correct."

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—" May I know whether the Government have at least tried to ascertain whether it is correct ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :— " Government have taken steps and found that it is correct."

Time granted for objections to draft rules for the preparation of electoral rolls for municipalities and union boards.

*781 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state in regard to the six weeks' time granted for objections to the draft rules for the preparation of electoral rolls for municipalities and union boards, respectively, in G.Os. No. 3434, L. & M., dated 22nd August 1928 and No. 3437, L. & M., of the same date, whether it is counted from the date of its publication in English in the *Fort St. George Gazette* or from the date of its publication in the vernacular in the District Gazette ?

A.—Section 200 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and section 305 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, lay down that drafts of rules shall be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, and that such drafts shall not be further proceeded with until six weeks after such publication or until such later date as the Local Government may appoint. The period of six weeks will run from the date of publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette.*

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"May I know whether the Government will reconsider the question and modify the rules so as to give an opportunity for the notifications being published in the district gazettes in proper time ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I shall consider the suggestion."

Excise

Details regarding the anti-drink propaganda by Government.

*782 *Q.*—Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) what steps he has so far taken from the time of his assumption of his office in the matter of giving effect to the Council's resolution of introducing prohibition in 20 years;

(*b*) whether the Government have formulated detailed proposals regarding the anti-drink propaganda work, and if so, what they are;

(*c*) if not, how long the Government will take to arrive at all those details;

(*d*) whether the Government have allotted any funds for the propaganda work ; if so, how much ; if not, why not ;

(*e*) how many shops of toddy and liquor respectively districtwar have been closed in the years from 1922 to 1928, and for what reasons, if any ;

(*f*) how many such shops were closed as they could not be sold in auction ;

(*g*) (1) what is the personnel of the Excise Advisory Committee ; (2) whether they have submitted any report and whether it is unanimous ; if not, who are the dissenting members ; and (3) whether the Government are now in a position to place on the table of the House the proposals of the Committee with that of the dissenting members ; if not, why not ;

(*h*) how many municipalities and local boards have since passed and forwarded to Government resolutions advocating total prohibition in their local areas and which they are ; and

(*i*) what action has been taken by the Government to give effect to such resolutions ?

A.—(*a*), (*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) The hon. Member is referred to the answers to clause (*a*) of question No. 76 and to question No. 565 given at the meetings of the Legislative Council held on 4th September 1928 and 12th October 1928, respectively.

(*e*) & (*f*) The hon. Member is referred to statement B in the Excise Administration reports which have been published. The Government have no information beyond that contained in these statements and have called for a report.

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(g) (1) The following is the personnel of the Excise Advisory Committee :—

President.

(1) The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar, Minister for Public Health.

Members.

(2) M.R.Ry. S. N. Dorai Raja Avargal, M.L.C.
(3) „ K. Krishnan Avargal, M.L.C.
(4) „ Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu Garu, M.L.C.
(5) „ Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan Avargal, M.L.C.
(6) „ Daniel Thomas Avargal, M.L.C.
(7) „ K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar Avargal, M.L.C.
(8) Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razack Sahib Bahadur, M.L.C.
(9) J. A. Davis, Esq., M.L.C.
(10) W. O. Wright, Esq., M.L.C.

(2) & (3) The Excise Advisory Committee has not submitted any report.

(h) & (i) The Government have not received any such resolutions.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"With reference to the answer to clauses (a), (b) and (c) I find that the answer is that the subject is still under consideration. I want to know . . . "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Questions to test the accuracy of answers given cannot be treated as supplementary questions."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Sir, I am asking the Government to throw some light on the answer already given. I want to know what steps the Government propose to take in the matter."

Thn hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"The answer has been given on a former occasion."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"May I know whether several municipal and local boards have not passed resolutions that the shops should be altogether removed from their limits."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"Government have not received any such resolution."

Location of arrack shops at Nallagatla, Battulur and Erraguntla.

*783 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) when the arrack shops at Nallagatla, Battulur and Erraguntla of the Sirvel taluk of the Kurnool district were opened ;

(b) whether these villages are situated on the same road namely on the Chittoor-Kurnool road ; and

(c) what the distance from Nallagatla to Battulur and from Battulur to Erraguntla is ?

A.—(c), (b) & (c) A report has been called for.

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Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know when the hon. the Minister called for the report?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"Soon after the receipt of the question from the Council office."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"Will he be pleased to place it on the table of the House when he receives it?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"I have no objection."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Do the Government mean to advocate total prohibition or advocate the removal of shops from the area?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"Government have not received any resolutions that any shops from the areas should be removed."

Closing of liquor shops in South Arcot district.

* 784 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the excise revenue realized by Government from South Arcot district during the past five years;

(b) the number of liquor and toddy shops in this district during each of those five years;

(c) the number of trees licensed for tapping during the said period;

(d) the approximate amount of money spent on drink by people in the said period; and

(e) the steps, if any, taken by the Government to reduce the drink evil in that district during the said period?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the Annual Excise Administration Reports of the past five years which have been published.

(c) Figures showing the number of trees licensed in the district for tapping during the past five years are given below:—

Year.	Cocoanuts.	Palmyras.	Dates.
1923–24	49,382	13,258	8,600
1924–25	47,655	13,305	8,987
1925–26	52,179	12,526	8,144
1926–27	50,622	12,418	9,355
1927–28	48,402	13,233	8,449

(d) The Government have not the information.

(e) The measures specially applicable to South Arcot are:—

(1) The issue strength of country spirits was from 1st April 1925, reduced from 35° u.p. to 38° u.p. throughout the district except in the tracts adjoining French territory.

(2) From 1st April 1927, the duty on arrack issued to certain shops of the Manjakuppam range in this district was raised from Rs. 6–4–0 to Rs. 8–13–6 per proof gallon

(3) The limit of private possession of country spirits without licence was reduced from 8 to 6 drams from 1st April 1925 and from 1st April 1928, the limit was further reduced to 4 drams in all the municipalities of the district.

(4) The total number of licences for the sale of liquor was reduced from 887 in 1922–23 to 823 in 1927–28.

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Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar :—"Will the hon. the Minister consider the advisability of supplying the questioner with the information asked for in clause (*b*) ?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—"The answer sought for will be found in the Annual Excise Administration Report. Government will have no difficulty in giving it."

Agriculture

Stability of the Mysore Agricultural Dairy Farm Company, Limited.

*785 *Q.*—Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the Government have any information as to the solvency, reliability, stability or otherwise of the Mysore Agricultural Dairy Farm Company, Limited, and if so, what it is ?

A.—The Government have no information.

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—"May I know whether the hon. the Minister is aware that this Dairy company is collecting a large sum of money by way of shares and deposits from villagers ?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"I am not aware of it."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—"In the interests of the people who are now fleeced thus will he please obtain the information ?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"I shall consider."

Starting of a demonstration farm for growing sugarcane in Bellary district.

*786 *Q.*—Mr. R. Nagan Gowda : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Director of Agriculture on his last visit to the wet land areas in the Bellary district promised to consider the question of taking over for lease an acre of wet land and growing sugarcane and making jaggery at Government expense by Government men as demonstration to the ryots ; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to hasten the starting of such a demonstration ?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) These demonstration areas were duly started at Chitwadigi and Kampli. The former was a failure due to climatic conditions. The plot immediately after planting had taken place was badly affected by very heavy rains and stagnation of water. The canes never recovered from this set back and growth was poor throughout. Despite this the best that could be done was done and a demonstration of good jaggery making was given.

The demonstration at Kampli, however, was a complete success.

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Fisheries

Inspectors and Petty Yard officers in the Fisheries Department on the West Coast.

*787 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of inspectors, sub-inspectors, and petty yard officers employed at present in the Fisheries Department on the West Coast and the communities to which they belong;

(b) whether efforts have ever been made to recruit these officers from among the fisherfolk community;

(c) whether there are any orders of Government requiring the appointing authorities to give preference to candidates belonging to the fishermen community; and

(d) if the answer to (c) is in the negative, whether the Government propose to issue such orders?

A.—(a) A statement [a] furnishing the required information is appended.

(b) & (c) Preference is always given to applicants from the fishermen and other backward classes.

(d) They do not propose to issue any special orders in view of the answer to clauses (b) and (c) above.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that there are sufficient number of qualified men among the fishermen community to fill the posts of inspectors, sub-inspectors and petty yard officers in the Fisheries Department?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR:—"Yes, Sir."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"In view of the fact that only a small proportion of these posts is held by these men will the Government be pleased to issue a special order and see that qualified men of this community are given preference in filling up vacancies in these posts in future?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR:—"Yes. Preference will be given to qualified men from the community."

Industries

Number and location of trade schools in this Presidency.

*788 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any trades schools in this Presidency; and

(b) if so, the number and the locality where each is working?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) One at Madras.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"May I know whether the Government propose to start any other trades school anywhere in the Presidency?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR:—"Yes, we intend to start one more at Mangalore."

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 361 infra.

TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

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Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—" May I know whether they are not going to start one in the Telugu districts ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" We have no intention."

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—" Do the Government consider in all their magnanimity and generosity that one more trades school is sufficient for the whole Presidency ?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" It is proposed as a trial."

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—" May I knew, Sir, whether the Government have any scheme for starting a large number of such trades schools in different parts of the Presidency ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" We have a scheme under consideration."

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—" May I know when they propose to open them ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" When funds permit."

Mr. K. R. Karant :—" When was the school at Mangalore opened ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" Not yet opened."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—" Is the Trades School in Madras successful or unsuccessful ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" Successful."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" What happened to the leather trades school which was there ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" It is still there."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" Is the leather school . . ."

The hon. the President :—" We are now dealing with the trades school."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" Yes, Sir, it is a leather trades school. (Laughter.) Is this successful or not ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" No."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" May I know whether any provision has been made in the coming budget for such trades schools to be established in pursuance of the scheme ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" Besides the trades school proposed at Mangalore, it is proposed to open industrial schools in Bellary and Calicut."

Public Works

Construction of the bridge across the Cauvery near Sivasamudram.

* 789 Q.—Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to place on the table of the House a statement regarding the amount spent last year and in this year in constructing the bridge across the Cauvery near Sivasamudram, the materials purchased or ordered till now and the time required for finishing the bridge ?

	RS.	A.	P.
A.—Booked expenditure in 1927–28	45	0	0
Booked expenditure from April to September 1928	17	7	0

No materials have been purchased departmentally. The work has been given on lump sum contract and the contractor is collecting the required materials.

According to the contract the contractor is to finish the work within 30 months of the date of handing over the site to him.

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar :—"May I know the date when it was let to the contractor?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"Only very recently."

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar :—"May I know the name of the contractor?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"Notice, Sir."

Veterinary

Prospects and utility of the Chintaladevi cattle farm.

*790 Q.—Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether he proposes to visit the Chintaladevi cattle farm with a view to study the progress and utility of the said farm ; and

(b) if not, whether he would be pleased to call for a thorough and complete report about its progress, prospects and utility?

A.—(a) Yes, at an early opportunity.

(b) In view of answer to (a) it is not necessary to call for the report.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Finance

Recommendations by the mirasidars' meeting at Mudikondan regarding the utilization of the remitted provincial contributions.

791 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether certain Mirasidars of Tanjore district held a meeting at Mudikondan on 29th October 1927 to consider the best method of utilizing the 348 lakhs of rupees released by the Central Government, and made recommendations to the Government ; and

(b) if so, what they are?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) A copy of the resolution [a] is appended.

Land Assignment

Land assignment to Adi-Dravidas in Matasa village, Wandiwash taluk.

792 Q.—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Esa Eri of Matam village, Wandiwash taluk, North Arcot district, is irrigating wet double crop lands of Matam and Isakolathur villages ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the supply from this Eri is insufficient and whether Government on the petitions of the ryots promised to repair the tank and asked the ryots to remove the prickly-pear on the bund of the Eri ;

a Printed as Appendix III on pages 362–363 infra.

(c) whether it is a fact that the ryots cleared the bunds accordingly at a cost of about Rs. 500 ;

(d) whether it is a fact that it is proposed to assign the foreshore lands in the same Survey No. 124/2 to Adi-Dravidas and whether the caste ryots have protested against such exclusive assignment;

(e) whether it is a fact that a number of darkhast applications were dismissed in previous years for the same land and if so, whether the applicants were caste ryots and the reasons why they were dismissed ; and

(f) whether the Government will be pleased to call for a full report on the matter ?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*f*) The Government have not the details asked for but have called for a report.

Education

Grants for the construction of buildings to the Andhra University.

793 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. Swami : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether sufficient provision will be made in the next budget for grants to the Andhra University for the construction of buildings for starting Honours and Post-graduate courses and also for the construction of a Convocation Hall and administrative offices wherever it might be ; and

(b) what is the probable amount that would be required for the above purposes ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Plans and estimates for the construction of buildings for starting Honours and Post-graduate courses have not yet been prepared as the question of the headquarters of the University is still unsettled and no provision could accordingly be made in the next year's budget towards the construction of the buildings. The question of the provision to be made in the next year's budget for the construction of a Convocation Hall and administration offices which are estimated to cost Rs. 3·27 lakhs is under consideration.

Improvements to the Training College, Rajahmundry.

794 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. Swami : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any proposals for raising the compound wall and for improving the sanitary arrangements of the Training College, Rajahmundry ; and

(b) if so, what they are ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No such proposals have been received by the Government

Progress of collegiate and secondary education among boys and girls.

795 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. Swami : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the percentage of boys and girls receiving (1) collegiate education and (2) secondary education and (3) elementary education ; and

(*b*) any information in the possession of Government regarding the percentages in other countries such as England, France, Germany, Japan?

A.—(*a*) The percentages to population of boys and girls receiving education on the 31st March 1927 were as shown below :—

		Collegiate education.	Secondary education.	Elementary education.
Boys	...	0·056	0·77	8·2
Girls	...	0·0022	0·072	2·3

(*b*) The Government have no information.

Government encouragement to adult education.

796 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the several steps taken by the Government to encourage adult education;

(*b*) the places where classes are opened for giving free education for adults; and

(*c*) the number of adults receiving education at each place?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member is referred to G.O. No. 746, Law (Education), dated 14th April 1928, and to the annual reports on the working of the Teachers' College, Saidapet, and the Government Training College, Rajahmundry, for the year 1927–28, copies of which have been placed in the Legislative Council Library.

(*c*) The Government have no information except in regard to the adult education class working in the Government Training College, Rajahmundry. The number of adults receiving education in this class was 72 in 1927–28.

Proposals for imparting instruction in agriculture in elementary and middle schools.

797 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 829 answered on 31st March 1927, regarding middle schools teaching agriculture—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any proposals from the Director of Public Instruction for imparting instruction in the elements of agriculture in higher elementary and middle schools; and

(*b*) whether the Government have considered the question and have come to any decision thereon and if so, with what result?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The proposals have not been received yet.

Municipal Councils

Pay and leave to scavengers in municipalities.

798 Q.—Mr. M. V. GANGADHARA SIVA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the average pay given to a female scavenger and male scavenger in every district municipality in the Presidency;

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(b) whether the scavengers' services are included in the regular department or in the temporary departments of the municipalities; and

(c) whether the scavengers are given the privilege of enjoying the Government holiday and whether they are granted casual leave whenever they fall sick?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The subject-matter of the question falls entirely within the province of municipal councils (vide sections 70 and 74 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920). The Government have consequently no information in the matter.

Maternity leave to scavengers in municipalities.

799 *Q.*—Mr. M. V. GANGADHARA SIVA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether every municipality is giving maternity leave to female scavengers; if so, how many females have been granted such leave in every municipality in the Presidency?

A.—The Government have no information as the subject-matter of the question lies entirely within the province of municipal councils under clause (*c*) of section 74 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920.

Industries

Quantity and kinds of oil imported into this province.

800 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether enquiries have been made to find out the quantity and kinds of oils which are imported into this province from foreign countries; and

(*b*) whether the Government have investigated or have information whether these oils can be prepared in this province?

A.—(*a*) Statistics of imports by sea are available in the Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Madras Presidency. Figures of imports by rail are not available.

(*b*) Oils are classified under animal, essential, mineral and vegetable (non-essential) oils. The chief animal oil is fish oil which is imported only to a very limited extent. Fish oil is produced in the Presidency in large quantities and there is a considerable although fluctuating export trade in the oil. The quantity of essential oils imported under each variety is very small. It is under contemplation to undertake at the Kerala Soap Institute the experimental manufacture of certain of these oils with a view to developing the essential oil industry of the Presidency and incidentally to providing at a reasonable cost the essences required for the manufacture of soap in the Institute. There are not, so far as is known, any workable oil bearing deposits in the Presidency. Coconut oil and groundnut oil, the imports of which are practically negligible, are expressed in this country.

II

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN FOR SELECT COMMITTEE ON DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES AMENDMENT BILLS.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" In respect of the Bills of Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao and Mr. P. Anjaneyulu respectively, I appoint Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar as Chairman of the Select Committee." 12 noon.

The Council will now take up the resolution of Mr. Bheemayya.

III

RESOLUTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

APPOINTMENT OF A COMMITTEE TO ENQUIRE INTO THE ECONOMIC CONDITION OF KISTNA, GODAVARI EAST AND GODAVARI WEST.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" Mr. President, Sir, at this stage, I should like to put my case with regard to the necessity of enquiring into the economic conditions of the tract where resettlement is proposed. The Special Settlement officer in making recommendations for rates in the uplands and the dry lands has brushed aside this question by a remark which shows the mentality of the officer. He says that any readjustment is only a matter of annas. Well, Sir, this country has been proved to be proverbially poor, and if the Godavari and Kistna districts appear as a somewhat green patch upon the map of the Andhra districts, they are not certainly above normal and there are a large number of poor ryots even in those districts. The voters' list of those districts which consists of only tens of thousands of people on the basis of an assessment of ten rupees is positive proof that to a large number of people in those districts annas do count. This kind of argument that annas do not count has been elsewhere also adduced. It was adduced when we talked of the taxation on salt. It was adduced when we talked of duties. It is adduced in all conceivable places, and we are told that we have to pay annas, annas and annas, which all make up rupees, hundreds, thousands, lakhs and crores.

" Now, Sir, my second reason why I want this enquiry into the economic conditions in this tract is that the Government itself has recognized that as a basis for resettlement economic conditions have to be examined. The Special Settlement Officer has devoted a whole chapter, chapter 4, to discussing the economic condition of the area he treats, and he has devoted 30 pages to this question out of a report covering 75 pages. And that is a very good justification for me to urge that before you have made a real and proper economic survey of the tract through proper channels and by a proper agency it is not right that you should impose resettlement rates upon that tract. Increase of population in the tract is not of much account to the Settlement officer. Agriculture which is the only occupation of the people and the absence of other occupations is of no concern to him. Increase of the standard of living which has been brought into this country by foreign contact, increase to an extent which was not dreamt of twenty or thirty years ago, increase which must be rated at four or five times what it was when the last settlement took place is not taken into consideration. No family budgets have been examined. There is an examination of the holdings. But an examination of the holdings in relation to the increase of population is not at all made. When we come to cultivation expenses, what is taken into account is the expenditure upon Government farms. We do not know how the figures are arrived at there,

but the cultivation expenses of the ryots of the Godavari and Kistna districts has been put at Rs. 35 an acre. To my mind, Sir, that is a very low estimate and it requires a thorough revision. Again it is urged, as a big argument in favour of resettlement, that paddy cultivation has expanded immensely and therefore, the tract must bear resettlement rates. But on the other side consideration is not given to the point that paddy has driven out other necessary crops and therefore the ryot has to suffer in getting these other necessaries, because he has to pay much more for them than he used to. And then whenever the land values and the lease values are examined the Settlement officer always lays emphasis upon the money values of these things. But to the ryot the money is not a big consideration in regard to his economic condition. Really he lives upon what he produces on the land. The question whether the land is producing more than it produced at the last resettlement is the question that has to be taken into consideration but not the fact that the produce fetches a little more money in money value. Moreover the question of the sale value of land is clouded by this issue. There is a rush for land in this country. No other occupation can be found for the people and every one wants to live on the land and therefore there is an exorbitant rise in the value of land, but the relative outturn is very limited. I know as a matter of fact in the West Godavari district land that fetches Rs. 2,000 per acre in money value, yields only Rs. 50 a year in the form of return to the owner. Therefore to argue from the rise of prices of land is fallacious.

"I shall now examine the report point by point. I won't deal with all the points as I have not the time to do so. But I shall deal with a few points that the Special officer has examined. He has laid great stress upon the expansion of irrigation area to 'soudu' and 'parra' by means of pumping installations. That only shows that there is so much of struggle for life. What does this show except the struggle for life? It is a truth which is applicable for the whole Presidency, not to the Godavari and Kistna districts only. It shows that people are driven to cultivation, to the poorest sort of agriculture, because they get no living otherwise. Then, the agricultural population is dealt with by the Special Settlement officer. He therein admits that the returns may not be absolutely reliable, but yet he says that they are suggestive. He jumps to the conclusion that the agriculturist is holding his own because he finds that there is an increase of 1 per cent in non-cultivating owners, an increase of 2 per cent in tenants, of 2 per cent in cultivating landowners, of 30 per cent in Godavari of cultivating landowners, of 10 per cent in the cultivating landowners in Kistna, and minus 60 per cent in tenants in the Godavari district. There is minus 60 per cent of labourers in the Godavari and Kistna districts. That means that labour has become scarce, and people who have got to make a living upon land have to pay much more than before for labour owing to the shortage of labour. The Special officer wants to prove by all this that the agricultural classes are not losing hold through poverty or indebtedness. His examination of indebtedness is certainly amazing and his remarks on the subject deserve careful attention. I shall not go into the many details but to one statement therein. He says that for loans secured on land the rate of interest is 9 to 12 per cent on immovable property 12 to 15 per cent, or even 18 per cent on unsecured loans. He says these are not the rates of interest ruling in a bankrupt country. I do not know if England is bankrupt with 5 per cent interest, but here we have 18 per cent interest, and this rate of interest is claimed as

connoting prosperity. Certainly it connotes, if at all it connotes anything, the absolute poverty of the people and the absolute need that there is for capital and for investment. And then he analyses the rail-borne traffic, and he arrives at some figures for passenger traffic, and says that there is an increase of 68 per cent in the inward traffic and 70 per cent outward. As regards goods traffic the increase is 25 per cent inward and 55 per cent outward. Well, Sir, this is not a very big increase considering the fact that thirty years of progress has taken place in the country and year by year man has been adding to his labour on the land because he cannot get labour elsewhere. But the Special officer again turns round and says that railway returns are subject to many extraneous influences and we cannot press conclusions too closely. He talks of sea-borne trade but he excludes the port of Bandar. He finds that it has decayed and therefore his conclusion is that we need not take into consideration that port. He says that the decay of the port of Bandar happened on account of special circumstances. Then he thinks of exports and imports. He says imports have risen from 41 to 53 lakhs and exports from 90 to 148 lakhs. And here he does not enter into the question of the relative value of the rupee at the last settlement and at this settlement. The figures are very credulously swallowed by the Special officer to make out that this area is grandly progressive under British rule. And then so far as the agricultural outturn of the tract is concerned, he takes the Kistna delta into account but this delta is not separate from parts of Guntur. He says that the increase is 37 per cent. When we go to Godavari, he says the increase is only 5 per cent. It is not known why there is such disparity between the Godavari figure and the Kistna figure. Then we come to cattle and sheep. Cattle and sheep have decreased . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member has come almost to the end of his time-limit."

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" I have almost come to the end of my speech, Sir. Cattle and sheep have decreased, but the Special officer finds some excuse for such a decrease. He says that the figures are not reliable. When the figures cannot serve his purpose he says that the figures are not reliable. He says that the ryot has himself aggravated this decrease, since he continues to waste his resources on the maintenance of useless beasts. I do not know what is meant by this, whether the Special officer reminds us of the Western practice of shooting animals when they are useless. I shall not take up much more time of the House, Sir, but I shall just refer . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will not be allowed to take up any more time, I am afraid."

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" I shall just refer to the statistics that he takes from the co-operative societies. There are 523 co-operative societies in Kistna and 406 in Godavari. He refers to the landowners who have debts in these societies. He examines only 75 societies and he says in one group there are 383 debtors out of 535, in another place 482 out of 727, 232 out of 638 in another place and so on. These certainly are not figures that would show that there is a great deal of economic development in this tract. I admit, Sir, that there has been some development. People are there living. They raise their crops and there are improvements. I admit all these but still I say it is the duty of the Government to see that they do not demand

a share of the land when there is no excess. They may demand a share when there is any excess of profit after meeting the ordinary human necessities of the people. He says the irrigation schemes are paying. The Godavari and Kistna delta schemes are now paying and paying well. Therefore the resettlement has to be conducted on quite different lines. The family budgets have to be examined and there should not be any impression that the ryot is being squeezed out of what is absolutely essential for his bare existence. It must be examined from the condition of the lowest ryot who pays revenue and not from the status of the highest man who gets the largest profit in the area. I therefore have pleasure in seconding this motion."

12-15 p.m. * Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—" Sir, we are placed under a great disadvantage in dealing with this question. There are no statutory enactments in regard to this land revenue which constitutes the major part of the revenues of the province. I shall illustrate my point by one fact. Formerly, in respect of the resettlements of some districts, it was laid down in one of the Government Orders that in all future settlements the standard price to be taken into consideration should be the lowest price touched in the 20 previous non-famine years. That was the rule laid down. When I interpellated the Government on this matter some time back, the Government said that they had changed this policy since and that they were taking now the *average* for 20 non-famine years. I do not know what actuated the Government to change their policy. Land revenue is an important revenue and it should not be left to the sweet will and pleasure of the executive part of the Government, but must be standardized on the basis of some legislative enactment. If there had been any legislative enactment in the matter, Government would not have changed their ground without going into the merits of the case, as they have done now. This is the root evil—the absence of legislative enactment to regulate the levy of land revenue. With reference to the particular question on hand, namely, the resettlement operations in the East and West Godavari and Kistna districts may I point out that the enquiry must be an open enquiry at which persons concerned may have a chance of being heard and leading evidence—although Government are determined not to be convinced. The recent enquiry has been conducted in a hole and corner fashion; the names of the villages to be taken for examination have not been published, nor the places of enquiry; and no notice was given to the principal persons concerned. Under what headings the facts were collected nobody knew. The enquiry was in the hands of the revenue official, the Settlement officer, and it goes without saying how biassed his conclusions would be. This is inevitable because he has to support the Government point of view. In an enquiry of this sort, in connexion with enhancement of land revenue, it is absolutely necessary that the enquiry must be open and straightward, as it affects 70 per cent of the people who are owners of small lands and whose mainstay is agriculture; and no persons interested shall have reason to complain that it was done in a covert fashion. As I pointed out, nearly 70 per cent of the people are owners of small holdings paying less than Rs. 10. That enquiry has been reduced to 4 or 5 headings. First, the Settlement officer stated that land value had increased from two to five times; secondly, that the rental values had increased from two to three times, that there had been an increase in the material prosperity of the ryots, that cultivation expenses were Rs. 35 per acre, and so on. On the basis of these, the Settlement officer proposed an increase of $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

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"With reference to the alleged increase in the income of landholders, I may point out that if an opportunity was given to the people to put their case before the Enquiry officer (people who are holders of small lands and who are most effected), it would have been well and good. Instead of that, having collected his facts at random, he has begun to generalize.

"With reference to the rentals, we do not know what rentals were taken into consideration, and of what villages."

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR (from the Chair):—"The hon. Member will soon wind up."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU:—"If the people were aware what villages were taken into consideration they would have come forward with valuable information to be placed before the Committee.

"As regards the inflated land values, in this unfortunate country of ours there is absolutely no means by which people can invest their moneys; nor do they have enough to invest. Agriculture is their only avocation, and they must live by land and invest their moneys on cultivation. Government's calculations for arriving at increased rental values are entirely baseless.

"With reference to the indebtedness of the ryots, the Settlement officer has made a mistake in ignoring the only available and possible source of information. Mortgages, and the co-operative societies are his source of information. We know that for fear of income-tax the sowcar never lends money on mortgages. He gives money on pro-notes or on small securities at high rates of interest. The Settlement officer has not taken pains to examine the private accounts of the sowcars which would reveal a very sad state of things. That is the only true source which would give the officer an idea of the indebtedness of the ryots.

"With reference to the material profit, if he had taken into account the general rise in the economic level, he would have made certain deductions before pronouncing in favour of the material prosperty of the ryots.

"One more point. With reference to cultivation expenses, the Settlement officer's report says that in the Samalkote farm, it is Rs. 30 per acre. But most of the landowners are small pattadars and their family budgets should have been examined before arriving at any conclusions. In view of these facts, the Settlement officer's report could not be accepted."

*Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Mr. President, Sir, in the first place, without introducing a Land Revenue Bill it is highly arbitrary on the part of the executive Government to attempt to increase the land revenue of the country. In spite of the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, this Government has not introduced any Land Revenue Bill, though the Reforms themselves came seven years back. Last year, a draft Bill was circulated for public opinion and Government, finding that their Bill would not get through this Council and that all parties would oppose it and would not agree to keep the right of increasing the rates in the hands of the Government dropped the matter altogether. We find that the position of the Government ryots is worse than that of the zamindari ryots. The latter have at least got the Estates Land Act which prevents any enhancement of kist on the part of the zamindars. Once in thirty years, in the name of resettlement,

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without doing anything to the ryots for deserving any profits from the income of the ryots, the Government want to take something more. What have they done to deserve any increase of revenue from the ryots? The zamindar will not be entitled to claim anything unless he has done something to improve the yield of the land. If a canal is dug there, the Government comes for water-rate and, if irrigation is extended, the ryots have to pay water-cess and, if cultivation is extended, they have to pay cess. The Settlement officer says that roads have been newly opened a bit although in fact except the Masulipatam-Bezwada Railway line no new lines have been opened during this period. The Masulipatam road has deteriorated. Simply because a railway line has been newly opened, you cannot say that the people are more prosperous. On the other hand, people have learnt to spend more money by travelling often. Government have raised the shutters to 6 feet no doubt, but they have collected inclusion fees at the rate of Rs. 25 per acre on thousands of acres in the Kistna Eastern delta and the Kistna Western delta in spite of the resolution of this Council that the Government should not collect anything in the shape of inclusion fees. The Government, when they collected the inclusion fees and issued a Government Order vetoing the resolution of this Council promised that they would spend the increased income on the improvement of drainage schemes in the deltaic area. Nothing has been done in that direction so far. The report says that there has been no remissions. Of course, the people do not get remissions easily and therefore they do not care to go and dance attendance on the officials asking for remission. It is an extremely difficult matter to get any remission whatever. We know that the Government servants would be in the black list of the Government if they gave remissions or failed to support measures intended to give increased revenue to the Government.

12-30 p.m.

"Now, Sir, something like the farce of an enquiry is said to have been made by the Settlement officer. Of course, it is a confidential matter. Government servants have to make out a strong case for increase of revenue to the Government. If any Government servant says: 'No, this area is indebted. These people have not got very much prosperity and there is no case for the Government to get more revenue.' Naturally that man would be removed from that place. Sir, some villages are said to have been selected for enquiry. Of course, we do not know and the public do not know what enquiries were made. The people themselves do not know what opinions have been formed by the Government officials. Only when we put some questions in the Council, we are given some list showing what villages have been taken for enquiry. That kind of enquiry cannot be satisfactory. We are challenging the Government that no case has been made out for any increase either in the land revenue or in the water-cess. We also say and the resolutions passed at various conferences of ryots say that no real enquiry has been made. The ryots have not very much prospered after all. Behind the apparent contentment there is a lot of discontent and the indebtedness of the ryots has really increased probably due to certain habits of the people, but mainly due to the system of Government. For instance, the people have become more litigious. In deltaic areas they spend more money in going to courts and wasting money. Of course, their wants also have increased. They spend more money for their daily lives. All these things show that the people have not prospered at all. At any rate, prosperity has not increased during the last thirty years and therefore the Government have no claim whatever for

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getting more from the people. They say that the value of land has increased. To that I would say, as pointed out by Mr. Ramasomayajulu, that there being no other investment in this country, all people rush to the lands investing their little savings on the purchase of lands. Naturally there has been an increase in the value of lands. Rents have also increased, the tenants offer higher rents because there is no other occupation except agriculture, all other industries having died out in the country. Therefore if a ryot has merely grass for his cattle, he would be content and would pay off the whole thing to the landholder. That is the position to which the ryots have been reduced.

"The settlement report says that the population has increased. Of course, that is the case. They require more food. The lands also have been sub-divided into smaller and smaller holdings. That is no reason why more water-rate should be demanded from these people by the Government. All these show that all these things seem to have been done arbitrarily. Of course, it has become a practice for Government officers to select a particular area once in thirty years and say that the revenue must be increased to a certain extent. In this case it is 18¾ per cent. This figure had been decided upon even before the Settlement party was sent. Everybody thought there will be an increase of 25 per cent. Probably 18¾ per cent was fixed after the famous Tanjore no-tax campaign. Now, the Government seems determined to collect this 18¾ per cent enhancement in our areas. Therefore, Sir, I have very great pleasure in supporting the resolution that an open enquiry should be made."

Mr. M. Narayana Rao :—"Sir, I rise to support the motion of my hon. Friend Mr. Bheemayya. This is a very modest request that has been put forward before the Government. We only want an open public enquiry into the economic condition of the tract as a preliminary to the resettlement. The resolution only asks : 'Government be pleased to constitute a committee not less than half of the members of which being elected by this Council. . .' This is a very modest request which the Government, I think, should readily accept. We only want that an impartial enquiry should be made into the economic condition of the ryots. The ryots in general feel, Sir, that the enquiry made by the officer concerned is partial, one-sided and unsatisfactory. That is the opinion expressed by the West Godavari Resettlement Committee on 12th August 1928 and this opinion of the Committee has been forwarded to the Government by my hon. Friend Mr. D. Narayana Raju. The Committee further say that an enquiry by a mixed Committee should be made. The Government later on asked Mr. Narayana Raju to say what the reasons were for characterizing the report of the Settlement officer as casual, one-sided and unsatisfactory. Mr. Narayana Raju in a memorandum has explained all the facts and the circumstances under which an enquiry was again necessary. It is evident that the Settlement officer concerned always had the view of somehow or other enhancing the assessment and showing increased revenue. The natural tendency of an official revising assessments all by himself may well be stated in the words of the Bombay Land Revenue Assessment Committee, 1926, which says: 'Officials are apt to regard the question of assessment too much from the financial point of view and are liable to ignore the real interests of the masses in their not unnatural desire to bring

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additional revenue into the exchequer'. From this it will be evident that the official concerned will be always naturally inclined to raise the assessment somehow or other. So, I need not say very much about it.

"The economic enquiry which the Settlement officer states that he held in some places was not let known to the people. They neither knew where the enquiry was held nor how it was conducted. Neither the time nor the place of enquiry was known to the people. It appears that some people who knew about it and offered to give evidence were not wanted. The Settlement officer had his own view and his own method of making the enquiry. The ryots therefore had no opportunity to explain the position clearly before the Settlement officer. That is the reason why we say that the enquiry held was casual, one-sided and unsatisfactory.

"In paragraph 38 of the scheme report the Settlement officer says that he examined 1,799 ryots belonging to 71 delta villages and 131 ryots of 8 upland villages, out of 2,800 villages inhabited by $13\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of people in these three districts and found that 37 per cent of the delta ryots and 40 per cent of the upland ryots are free from debts. Even assuming these figures to be correct, the overwhelming majority in both the delta and upland villages are indebted. So, even if we take the figures furnished by the Settlement officer, the indebtedness of the ryots is extremely large. But I do not think the enquiry into the economic condition of the ryots can be said to be true from the statement of the officer concerned. He only seems to have examined the accounts of some co-operative societies, some mortgage deeds and other things from the Registrar's office. The ryots generally borrow in different ways. As explained by my hon. Friend, they borrow from *kathas* and other things.

12-45 p.m. "I know that these ryots generally borrow their monies on account with the capitalists and when the amount becomes very large it is the capitalist that forces the ryot to give him surety by means of mortgage bonds or some such thing. When the ryot is thus forced he gives mortgage bond by going to Registrar's office. If you will look into the mortgage bonds that have been executed by some of the ryots you will find that they have borrowed more monies than they are capable of. So, the figures collected from this data, viz., up to what extent the ryots have become indebted by going to Registrars' offices and mortgaging their property with the capitalists cannot be said to be correct. The ryots have incurred debts in other ways also, viz., by taking money from capitalists on account and also by some other means. So, if you will take into consideration all these factors and have a thorough enquiry made, it will prove that the report of the Settlement officer is not correct and many more additions will have to be made to the ryots' indebtedness. The Settlement officer proceeds to determine his data by fixing 28 per cent for the purchase of cattle and other implements, 24 per cent for cultivation expenses, 8 per cent for liquidation, 14 per cent for marriage expenses, 10 per cent for family expenses and so on. Similarly, he fixes the data for the upland villages also. We do not know on what materials these percentages are fixed, as he has not given out any detail. Moreover, the ryots whom he has examined could not possibly have given out their true economic condition because giving out one's own economic condition especially when one is indebted is rather a bar for his social status among his own country-men. Under these circumstances, you cannot expect the economic enquiry that has been made to be correct at all.

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"The cost of wages, cattle and manure, the officer concerned estimates at 150 per cent. I estimate it at much more than that. I estimate it at something like 400 per cent. The Settlement officer seems to have taken some pains in getting these figures. He has not taken the pain of examining the records that are maintained in the Cocanada Agricultural Farm which is worked by Government capital. According to what Mr. Prakasam has given in his *Swarajya* paper we find that the expenses for agriculture are much more than what the Special Settlement officer has given in his report. We worked out from the figures of the Cocanada Agricultural Farm. They are much more than what the Settlement officer himself admits. If we go into the health and morality of the people of these districts which has a great bearing on the economic condition of the people, it would have been better for us if the Settlement officer had spoken of their last year's condition. But he preferred otherwise. From 1926–27 excepting Madras, in the districts of Kistna and Godavari we find the highest death rate. For every 1,000 births about 250 infants died. In this connexion I would like to draw the attention of the hon. the Revenue Member to a paragraph written in the Agricultural Commission's report. This is what it says:—

'The close relations between agriculture and public health are obvious and they react upon each other to a remarkable degree. There is no direction in which the rural community needs help more than in the provision of medical facilities and public health amenities. Economic wastage due to disease cannot be over-exaggerated. Malaria slays its thousands and lowers the economic efficiency of hundreds of thousands; plague and cholera sweep the country from time to time; hookworm disease, kala-azar and diseases arising from diet deficiency insidiously reduce the labour power of the cultivating classes.'

"I beg to bring to the notice of the hon. the Revenue Member the above remarks. So taking all these into consideration the ryot population thinks that the enquiry held by the Special Settlement officer is one-sided and unsatisfactory."

(At this stage the bell rang and the hon. Member closed his speech.)

*Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Mr. President, no doubt we question the right and authority of the Government to have any resettlement whatsoever. The principle on which this theory is based is that the land always belongs to the ryot. But the Government think that it belongs to the State. The present Government has stepped into the shoes of the old Government and the old Government never had any right at all to the land. Any Government has only the right to collect tax to carry on the Government and also to protect the people entrusted to their charge. Now, it is well known to you, Mr. Chairman, that the ryot was there even before this Government had stepped in, even centuries and centuries before. Governments might come and go, but the ryot is there cultivating his little bit of land, improving it from generation to generation and its present improved state is due to his exertions and the money and labour spent on it. The resolution that has been moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Bheemayya takes cognizance of the fact that the Government is the owner of the land and simply asks for a remedy. In making resettlements taking the situation as it is, who is to enquire into the matter? The Government have got their own subordinates and they went into the matter as fully as they could, as any

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court would go into a case when it is an ex-parte case. Under those circumstances they cannot have more information than what they have at present. They wanted to have their own enquiry without the help or assistance of the people or their representatives. They have gone from village to village, made certain enquiries and submitted their scheme report. What we ask the Government is not to go into the question whether the State has got a right to tax the people on the basis that the land belongs to the State, but to see that a thorough enquiry is made by an independent body where the representatives of Government may also take part. The resolution also proposes that a portion of this committee should consist of the elected members of this House and certain other nominated members of the Government also. By the previous speakers it has been stated fully that the present report does not bear any scrutiny and it seems to be a made-up thing. The reasons that are given for the enhancement perhaps in the scheme report are these. The first and foremost, as it appears to the officer in charge, seems to be the increase in the population by 15 and 22 per cent in the East Godavari and Kistna districts and so there should be an enhancement. That seems to be the idea of the scheme report. If the population increases, we must increase the revenue. That seems to be one of the reasons for proposing the enhancement of revenue. I submit that this factor should not be taken into consideration. If at all it is taken into consideration, it goes against the Government rather than in favour of the Government. As the number of people has increased, the ryots will require more money for maintaining the increased population and so it would be just if they are asked to pay a lesser revenue than what they have hitherto been paying. The scheme report says 'trade and commerce have developed.' True, but it is the merchant that derives any benefit out of it. The ryot does not derive any benefit from the development of trade and commerce. On account of the development of trade and commerce, Government are having their full share by way of income-tax and other taxes. Then the scheme report says 'Communications have improved.' That also they urge as another ground for enhancing the present rate. That is not a ground at all. The fourth ground is that people spend more monies upon luxuries now, and so we want to have a share of that. If people are spending more monies now, then it shows that their requirements have increased and that should be a reason for not enhancing the tax. Then the fifth ground that has been given is that the holdings have increased. But the report does not give the total. The report itself admits that the present holdings in East Godavari are only six acres each and in Kistna it is about seven acres. That is the extent of each holding, but each holding belongs to a family which may consist of five persons on the average. The scheme report thinks this as too much and so the Government must have an enhancement in revenue. Another benefit that is conferred by this Government on the ryots and of which they want to take advantage, is that there is no variation in the season and the coercive process adopted for collecting tax has affected only a very small fraction of the revenue. So what the scheme report says is 'there are no variations in the seasons, so you must pay more; we have not employed coercive process on an extensive scale, so you must pay more.' That is the sixth reason they give. The seventh reason they give is that the economic condition of the agricultural classes is sounder than before. 'You seem to be richer than before, why don't you pay more', that seems to be the seventh reason. The scheme report itself admits that taking a group of villages it was found that the indebtedness of the ryots according to the records

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available in the Sub-Registrar's offices was to the extent of 7 lakhs in 1902, i.e., twenty-five years ago. What is it now? It is 13 lakhs. So the indebtedness has nearly doubled. Even then the scheme report thinks that the economic condition of the people is sounder. Perhaps it is the other way. The land value has gone up from two to five times the original value, and so the scheme report says that the increased land value is due to the increased income from the land and so you must pay more tax. I submit, Sir, that the value paid for the land is absolutely disproportionate to the income that is derived from it. The scheme report also admits that the ryot has got a 'land hunger', and so he is prepared to pay more price for land than what he originally paid. People must invest their monies somewhere and the ryots as a rule invest their monies in lands lest they should lose their monies altogether if they were to invest in other undertakings. We saw the illustration only the other day as to what happened with regard to the Carnatic Paper Mills Company, Limited. If people invest their monies in industrial enterprises, Government will see that people lose their monies in such enterprises. So far as ryots are concerned, they think that investment in lands is the only safest investment and so they always go in for lands whatever might be the price they have to pay in competition with others.

"Under these circumstances the scheme report says that the Government should have a share of it and calls this increase an unearned increment. I do not know how this is an unearned increment. The ryots work on their lands day in and day out; they invest all their money in making improvements to the land and this has been going on from generation to generation. Perhaps he is thinking of the landed property in England where the value of the land which is lying waste increases year after year and the owners of the land get a large value after a certain number of years. That is an unearned increment because the owner of the land does not invest any money to improve the land but simply keeps it as it is. All the reasons given by the scheme report should be enquired into. What the Government officers say is only an one-sided view. The ryots' view also should be taken into consideration and they should be allowed to state their views. The scheme report says that the expenses of cultivation amount to Rs. 35 per acre, while the same report admits that the Government spend about Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 per acre at Samalkot on their farm. Thus we can see how the Government Officer's report is not a correct one. The resolution now under consideration is a very modest one and it asks only for an independent enquiry. I hope the hon. the Revenue Member, who is always sympathetic would accept it." 1 p.m

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Sir, there will be no difference of opinion as regards the essential aim and object of this resolution, viz., the relief of the distress among the ryots and the improvement of their economic condition. But difference arises in the method of achieving the object. Everyone who has been in touch with the social and economic condition of the ryot will certainly agree that we should improve their condition; but is the appointment of a mixed committee the means of achieving that object? Mixed committees have become a very pleasant pastime in certain sections of the House. Past experience shows that these mixed committees have not been able to achieve any substantial results."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"What about the Simon Committee; will they be able to achieve anything?"

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* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Therefore in a discussion of this matter we should see what is the sane and sound method ; it is not passion or fire-works that will enable us to help the ryot in his economic distress. Hard facts alone would be of use,not pyro-technics for the purpose of beach oratory and advertisement in the platform. (Mr. S. Satyamurti : 'To impress upon Sir John Simon.') We have to see very carefully whether the present land tax is such as to be the main cause of the economic distress of the ryot. That is the question that we have to consider. But we see here that the benches of the Nationalist, Swarajist, Congress and other parties are so thin showing thereby what little interest they take in this all-important question of the improvement of the economic condition of the ryot.

"We have to consider whether this incidence of land revenue is the main cause of the low production of the ryot. Again is the land revenue the cause of excessive fragmentation.; is it again the cause of the unequal distribution of the incidence of taxation ? These symptoms are noticeable not only in Godavari and Kistna districts but all over the province. There should therefore be a comprehensive enquiry in regard to the relief of agricultural distress all over the province. The symptoms that we find are general and universal but not particular to these three districts. I would therefore gladly agree to a comprehensive enquiry into the question whether throughout the province the incidence of land tax has been the cause of the heavy indebtedness of the ryot, the excessive fragmentation of the holdings and the low productivity of the soil. These are general questions of universal applicability to all the ryots of the Presidency. A scheme report for these two districts was published. We know that there will be a resettlement in these districts ; in spite of that we have not moved our little finger in the direction of making an economic enquiry into the condition of the ryots of these districts. We have no materials on the non-official side to challenge the details of the official report published by the Settlement Officer. What steps have we taken to ascertain the conditions ourselves without any official help and challenge the facts stated by the Government ? Not having done anything for the past twelve months, to ask for the appointment of a mixed committee now will not show sincerity. Government have been able to collect all their facts and have their official report popularized and they have stolen a march over us. What have we now to combat the position taken by the Government and overcome the insurmountable difficulties ? Our own negligence is responsible. If we had started work a year or six months before the operations began things would have been a bit easier. But there is a motive underlying this resolution. The Mover of the resolution and his supporters know they will never be at a disadvantage. For if the motion is carried they will say, 'We have been able to achieve this'; because they know that $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent cannot be exceeded. On the other hand, if others say that we don't want a committee of this kind and if the motion is lost they would prejudice the mind of the ryot and say, 'We have tried our best, but the other Opposition has defeated us.' It is only for this tactical purpose but not with the real object of helping the ryot to improve his economic prospects that this question seems to have been brought forward. For, if otherwise, a more comprehensive enquiry into the condition of all the ryots and the effect of the incidence of land tax should have been made. I am not opposed to having an enquiry into the condition of the ryot ; but what I say is that the way in which this motion is proposed asking that the resettlement

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should be stopped and that a mixed committee should be appointed shows that the resolution will not achieve the object in view. What is the committee to do, I ask? I shall take leave of the House to show what we have been able to do in the course of two years regarding the economic survey of my district. You have to visit village after village and map out and study the various conditions prevailing there. You will have to go to the taluks and study the question with reference to the markets, the loan conditions, the irrigation sources and the pasture lands. Then you will have to call the ryots and ask them to give evidence. I know how difficult it was to collect the facts in my district. We had to go to the ryots and explain to them that we had come there to help them, pay them one visit and then a second visit, inspire some confidence in them and collect the information. All this was ten years ago. But now if we approach them in the disturbed condition, they will be very suspicious and will not come forward to give any reliable information. We should have done all this without any official help; if an official is put on the committee, certainly the people will be very suspicious. They would think that the official has come to know the real condition of things and would raise land tax. But if we do it ourselves the people will have confidence in us and will come forward to give us some kind of evidence. But I do not think that this mixed committee will help to achieve the object in view, viz., the improvement of the economic condition of the ryot. To achieve that object a more comprehensive enquiry should be made. While therefore I do not oppose the resolution, I am unable to see it will have any beneficial effect on the ryot."

Mr. B. Venkataratnam spoke in Telugu.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have to say a few words on this subject. Resettlement is going on in our district of South Kanara. We have started an association called the Landowners Association and we passed a resolution the other day that justice should be done to us. Primarily, justice should be done on the principle that there shall be no resettlement of any district without the consent of this House. That is one of the resolutions the Landowners Association has passed." 1-15 p.m.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I think the hon. Member is not confining himself to the terms of the resolution."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"The principle for which we stand is . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I request the hon. Member not to expound his principles but to confine himself to the terms of the resolution."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"The present resolution says that an enquiry should be made by a committee consisting of officials and non-officials, six non-officials being elected by this House. It only carries out to a limited extent . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Perhaps the hon. Member has given notice of some other resolution. I do not find anything about six members in this resolution."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"What I said was that the majority of the members of the committee should be elected by this House. The motion before the House carries out only to a limited extent the resolution passed by this House that there should be no increase of land revenue without the consent

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of this House. It is but fair on a general principle that this committee should be appointed to enquire into the economic condition and settle at what rate the incidence of taxation should be increased. I therefore heartily sympathise with the object of this resolution. The speech of the hon. Member, Sir A. P. Patro, struck me as very strange, having regard to the fact that he and his party have again and again joined the whole House in re-affirming that important principle that the consent of the House should be taken before the rate of increase is settled. It is very strange that he should oppose this resolution. In the interests of the universal application of the principle of this resolution to the whole Presidency I hope this House will support it, every one at least of the elected members. This is a very important principle. We only ask in a very modest way for the re-affirmation of the principle which this House has adopted more than once during these six years."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The House will now adjourn and re-assemble at 2-30 p.m."

(For further debate on this resolution please see page 353 infra.)

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

IV

ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. NATARAJAN TO WATCH THE CARNATIC PAPER MILLS.

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'*that the business of the House do stand adjourned, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the question of the employment of Mr. Natarajan on Rs. 650 per mensem for merely watching the machinery and buildings of the Carnatic Paper Mills.*'

" The manner in which the Government have managed to take possession of the Carnatic Paper Mills is a continuous series of muddles. The Government have made a parade of their abundant solicitude for the rate-payers' money in justifying their action in taking possession of these mills from the hands of the directors of the company. It is well within the memory of the hon. Members of this House that this indigenous undertaking was the first of its kind in which a large amount of public money has been invested. After the State Aid to Industries Act was passed, the management of this Carnatic Paper Mills Company approached the Government, thinking that the intentions of the State Aid to Industries Act would be honestly fulfilled by the Government. The Government no doubt lent a helping hand to this company in the beginning. But never did they do it in any graceful manner. At every step, there was a spirit of suspicion as to the successful working of these mills. Lakhs of money might be spent in spite of the protests of persons competent to speak on the Russellkonda Saw Mills ; but yet, if we on this side of the House should ask the Government to give an indigenous concern like the Carnatic Paper Mills some amount of money, not on purely business lines, but with a spirit of sympathy, all concern for the tax-payers' money rises up in the hearts of those men filling the Treasury Bench. The Ministers who happened to be in charge of the Industries Department may in their heart of hearts be sympathetic towards such a concern, but I know they are being pulled by the Reserved side, especially the Finance Department, not to transgress what they consider to be . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am afraid the hon. Member is making too long a prelude to the subject matter now under consideration."

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Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" Sir, the unfortunate circumstance that is attached to this Carnatic Paper Mills Company is that it is difficult to separate one muddle from another muddle without making some reference to the previous muddle. The latest muddle of the Government seems to me to pay an amount of Rs. 650 per mensem to one Mr. Natarajan who takes pleasure in calling himself not Natarajan but Nat Ragan, for merely watching the buildings and mills of this Carnatic Paper Mills Company. It was only yesterday, Sir, that we came to know that the Government could possibly commit such a blunder as this, i.e., to pay an amount of Rs. 650 for merely watching the buildings of the mills. The Government admit that he represents a firm or a corporation which is considering to buy these mills. It seems to me an absurd business proposition that the very person who is considered to be the prospective buyer of this machinery should be placed in charge of it and asked to watch that machinery. It reminds me, Sir, of deputing the wolf to keep guard over a flock of sheep. I ask any businessman to reconcile this position, namely, of deputing the very person who, in the opinion of the Government, is intending to buy this concern, to be in charge of it before the transaction is actually closed. I am also surprised at the manner in which this young man—I am told Mr. Natarajan is only a very young man—is able to bamboozle the Government to a position such as this. His antecedents do not seem to be creditable. I wonder how a Government which is ordinarily expected to be in possession of all the facts and never to stint expenditure where they consider it necessary to shadow political workers, is not able to know the antecedents of this man. I do not want to speak anything more about it because I am sure the Government, if it only cares to look into these things, will be able to know more about this Nat Ragan than what they pretend now to know about him I have no doubt more will be said about this person by my hon. Friend, Sir A. P. Patro, who seemed to be once in the grip of this enchanting young man. I am only sorry, Sir, that the very interests of the tax-payers which the Government are so much concerned to safeguard will be jeopardized by the action they have already taken and continue to take in the same manner in which they have done. But I have no doubt that their experience of this young man will be very very unpleasant. It is my duty to forewarn the Government of this. I therefore move that the business of the House do stand adjourned."

Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—" Mr. President, I second this motion and submit to this House that this subject has been before the House more than once. Even yesterday by a number of questions, some information was sought in this House from the Government benches but the Government have decided not to take this House into their confidence. They always give evasive answers, they do not say what they are going to do with the mills, why this mill was handed over to a young man of the description which my hon. Friend and Leader has given just now. The antecedents of this young gentleman are not known, and it is reported that he once floated a company in this very city known as the Indian Industrial Trading Corporation, Limited. The concern collapsed and as observed by my Leader, Sir Patro was one of the directors of the concern. He happened to be a director purely because of the enchanting inducements given by this young man."

Mr. K. R. Karant :—" What are those ? "

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Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" He represented himself, it seems, to a number of gentlemen in this city that he was the agent of a very important company in London, and that he had already taken some contracts for oil and if the company was floated and oil was manufactured in the city, they would be getting money just for the asking of it. This was the promise held out by this young man. Then he was an expert in oil; now he has turned out to be an expert in paper making. The hon. Mr. Moir was telling us the other day that he had gone from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin in search of an expert, but he could not get one. After all I now congratulate him in fixing upon a proper man, i.e., Mr. Natarajan. Yesterday it was given out by the hon. the Development Minister—I do not know how far he is responsible for this appointment—that this young man was appointed as a representative of a company, whose existence or antecedents he did not like to disclose, for a payment of Rs. 650 a month. Formerly it appears the Government were spending Rs. 1,000 on this concern simply to keep it up, to protect it from being spoiled. Now this young man, out of philanthrophy or kindness to Government have accepted to watch and keep this company and its properties intact for a payment of Rs. 650. Now, Sir, to a supplementary question put by an hon. Member of this House, the hon. the Development Minister said that a guarantee in the way of a cash deposit of Rs. 1,50,000 was taken from this young man. For what purpose this amount was taken as a deposit, it is not stated."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Has he deposited a security ? "

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" That is what is understood from the little that was said by the hon. the Development Minister. I do not know whether he will say anything more or he will stop there. The Government are very reticent on this subject. We sought for explanation both inside this House and outside it on so many occasions as to what they intend to do with this mill. We told them that the country was very much interested in this mill and that the country wanted this mill should be helped by the Government and put in proper working order. I said once before that this Government is aiming to kill this industry outright.

2-45 p.m. " I repeat it again, I repeated it even outside this House, though my hon. Friend, the Finance Member, threatened me with prosecution or action or something of that sort. The object of the Government from the beginning is to kill this industry outright. They have determined it from 1925 and with that avowed object they have lent the money and taken possession of the mill. If it is not the intention of the Government to destroy this industry and to prevent people from advancing more money on any private firm, why should they take possession of the mill now, and show to the people that Government has already taken possession of this mill and that there is no prospect of this mill being worked or helped by Government ? The only result will be that Government will have full powers to sell the mill. They had already given notice and they had now handed over the mill to a company from which they had an offer. Sometimes they say that they have nothing to do with the company and that this company is merely requested on behalf of Government to keep a watch on the mill in order to protect the mill from being spoiled or destroyed. That is all that they say. But, we assert that since we are not contradicted in this matter, except by a vehement speech from the Treasury, not disclosing any facts at all, I make bold to say

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again that the information that the people have got is that a few gentlemen, three or four English gentlemen, constituted themselves into a company and put up this young man as a representative of that company. What the Government want to do is to swallow a concern which was built up at a cost of 24 lakhs for a petty sum of 4 lakhs; they in their generosity and in the interests of the tax-payer want to sell away all the property for 4 lakhs, whether paid or to be paid in future. And this one and a half lakhs is stated to be only a deposit made by this young man in respect of the payment of Rs. 650 a month. It is not the security by this man for his pay but an advance for the sale-proceeds that has to be paid by the company which he represents. That is the information we have got. If the Development Minister or his patron the hon. the Finance Member wants to deny all these things, he may do so. Unfortunately, we have got just now a Development Minister who has not got a party of his own, but has simply to rely on the strength of the Government. He cannot assert his own independence and has to depend entirely for everything on Government and he has placed himself entirely at the disposal of the Finance Member. Even for giving information to this House or to meet arguments from this side, it is always the Finance Member who is always obliging this House.

"So what we submit to this House is, our anxiety is to see that this industry is not destroyed by the action of this Government. What happened all these three or four years? What is going to happen is after the expiry of the time given to this company, that is the 1st January 1929, the Government is going to sell this property worth 24 lakhs for a petty sum of 4 lakhs to this company, in which I am told, some of the high officials are interested also. I shall be very glad . . ."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"Is the hon. Member in order in making a charge of that kind against the officials without specifying the names?"

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Is it a point of order?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"If any reference is made to any particular Member of this House, I have to consider whether that statement is in order. If the hon. Member makes any reference to a general body, I do not think that the House need take notice, or the President need take notice of it."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"I make this statement not to make any insinuation against any officials, but to give them an opportunity to clear up these rumours which are circulated amongst the shareholders. If they deny all these things, I shall be very glad. Even last time, the hon. Mr. Moir made general observations. That is not the way . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I am not able to see how all this is relevant to the motion now under consideration."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"We submit that this Rs. 650 is not given as salary to Mr. Natarajan, but it is a sort of arrangement between the Government and Mr. Natarajan, to simply allow time to pass, because the Government have given notice to the company to pay the amount of Rs. 7,80,000 before 1st January. As I said before, this lakh and a half that is stated to be deposit money is only a part of the amount of 4 lakhs for which this mill is going to be sold. In that light, I submit to this House, that what I said is quite relevant and I bow to your ruling.

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" If the Government really want to support this mill, the only course that is open to them is to advance some more money. Yesterday, curiously enough, the Development Minister said that he wanted twenty lakhs to run this mill. That is what he said. When he was asked wherefrom he got this information, he asked for notice. He did not know wherefrom that information came. One of their own paper experts has stated that three to five lakhs are required for working capital. Now they say all sorts of exaggerated stories only with a view to sell away this mill to a European firm and to induce this House to believe in all things they have stated. So, the adjournment motion is really a motion to express the opinion of this House with regard to the action taken by the Government in this matter."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the business of the House do now adjourn."

* The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Sir, I wish briefly to state the present position in this matter. The position of Government has been explained to the Council in the course of the last adjournment motion debate. They have stated there that Government were not satisfied as to the commercial possibilities of the mills and they had serious doubts as to the correctness of the estimates placed before them by the management of the company. As the most important thing to be done in connexion with the mills appeared to them to be one of efficient management, the Government were making enquiries whether any firm with experience of paper manufacture would be willing to undertake the managing agency of these mills. Several firms were approached but with no practical results. Mr. Natarajan on behalf of the Industrial and Trading Corporation then made an offer to take over the mortgage rights but that was not accepted. At the time, the Government was satisfied as to the credentials which Mr. Natarajan produced. An influential firm also agreed in writing to stand behind the negotiation to the extent of a third (A voice from the Congress benches : Which is the firm ?). The name of the firm is Khaleel Shirazi & Sons of Madras. As it seemed to Government that the proposals were really actuated by a genuine desire to take over the mills and work them, they examined them. Anyhow the question of transfer has now been dropped and as no other course was open to Government, they have given notice to the company that if their dues are not paid, the Government will proceed to exercise the power of sale conferred on them by the mortgage-deed. The period of three months will expire next January. In the meantime the Government have accepted an offer made by Mr. Natarajan on behalf of the Corporation to look after the mills for a monthly sum of Rs. 650. As the Government, ever since they took possession of the mills in March 1928, were incurring a monthly expenditure of Rs. 1,000 on staff and maintenance of machinery, they accepted Mr. Natarajan's offer in the interests of economy. It is not a fact that the Superintendent who was originally at the mills is now denied access to the mills. He is still there in immediate charge of the mills, machinery and buildings (A voice from the Congress benches : Who pays him ?) (He is paid by Mr. Natarajan.)

" As regards the question whether as representative of the Corporation he is the proper person to be entrusted with the supervision of the mills the Government consider that no harm will result by his being in charge of the mills as he has no power either to add to the machinery or remove any portion of it nor can he prevent any other firm wishing to inspect it with a view to

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taking it over from inspecting the mills. The Director is still the controlling authority and Mr. Natarajan works definitely under the orders of the Director. The Government are prepared to give all facilities to any firm or individual who wants to inspect or in any way ascertain the possibility of the mills. If any other economical offer had been forthcoming the Government would certainly have availed themselves of it. It is only in the absence of any alternative the Government had recourse to accept Mr. Natarajan's offer in the interests of economy. If Mr. Natarajan spent any money in carrying out extensive alterations to machinery or adapting buildings or adding new machinery, he does so at his risk, because the mills, to the extent he spends money, will get the benefit of the appreciated value. The Government's interests are perfectly safeguarded under existing arrangements. At the present moment Mr. Natarajan has no interest in the mills. At any time, his agency may be terminated.

"That is the present position, Sir, regarding the mills."

* Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—"Mr. President, Sir, I have very carefully listened to the written statement made by the hon. the Minister for Development. There are two points that stand out prominent in his written speech. One is that they were satisfied with the credentials of this peculiarly interesting gentleman *at the time*. I do not know whether they are still satisfied. The other question that concerns us is what peculiar business this gentleman does when the Director of Industries is practically doing the whole thing there, and the Superintendent of the mill is doing everything. This is an extra office created for no ostensible purpose. That they have not yet disclosed to us and it stands to reason that we should expect the Government to tell us what the particular purpose is for which this gentleman is placed there. He also told us, Sir, that he has the liberty to extend the building or to add to the machinery. When there is adding on, there will be the counterpart of deducting. So, when he has access to the machinery, he can add on to it. When he has the liberty of meddling with the machinery, he may also do things detrimental to those who will be coming hereafter as purchasers. These are questions on which no definite information is given. I hope 3 p.m. those who come after the hon. Minister to speak on this will explain them. In a matter like this, all passions and provocation should be eliminated; but I am sorry to find that that passion comes from the other side of the House. I can understand if it came from this side, as we represent people who have invested a large sum of money in the business and who have a large stake. Government have not done anything to secure the interests of the mill or of the people."

The hon. the President :—"May I request the speaker to confine his remarks to Mr. Natarajan."

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—"Whatever may be the interest of Mr. Natajan or, for the matter of that, of any officer in it what I want to know is if an offer comes from the public, in the locality itself or from any other firm or from any other gentlemen, on the same terms as those now offered to Mr. Natarjan, whether the Government are prepared to state that they are willing to accept it."

* The hon. the President :—"I am afraid the speaker is going beyond the terms of the motion."

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Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" I hope they will take us into their confidence and place the matter before the House, in all its bearings before they finally finish the business, and not keep this Mr. Natarajan there a minute longer."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" I do not want to make a speech. I want to know whether there is anything to prevent this from being thrown open to others, on a reasonable offer, who are willing to work it."

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Nothing."

Mr. RAMANATH GOENKA :—" I had no idea to interfere in this debate, but as I heard some very interesting remarks from the hon. the Minister I am forced to say a few words. The hon. the Minister in his speech said that Mr. Natarajan can make some additions or alterations in the mills at his own risk. It is a very funny, and a very damaging statement."

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" I did not say so."

Mr. RAMANATH GOENKA :—" Sir, he said if he makes any additions or alterations he does so at his own risk. Why should he be allowed to meddle with it, what is the necessity for that statement if there is nothing behind it ? Secondly, when I asked the hon. the Minister yesterday about this he said that Mr. Natarajan is appointed as supervisor of the mill. They did not advertise for a supervisor and it is very curious to hear that they appointed him for the sake of economy and that they could not get any other. Did they try to get one on a salary below Rs. 650. They entered into a private arrangement with Mr. Natarajan knowing fully well his real condition. What work is he doing ? Is he supervising the mill, or supervising the officers ? Nobody knows. Hence I do not think Mr. Natarajan is entitled to a pay of Rs. 650. Was any other firm approached ? My friends of the Treasury Bench say that in a matter like this they went round to private persons. I have seen, Mr. President, that these advertisements do not come in public but they go by private arrangement. You remember the cement tender appeared in none of the Madras papers but it appeared in the Calcutta papers. So too they will never advertise in this case but sell the firm to somebody and say that they cannot get anyone. What we want is that they must advertise in the papers. I do not say that the mill is worth four or five lakhs ; I am not going into that controversy. As a matter of fact the mill was very badly managed, a lot of money went to the Port Trust and for six months the machine was with the Port Trust. Whether it is correct I do not know. I was told so. But nobody denied it and you cannot deny a fact. As it is, they ought to have advertised for a supervisor and not appointed one on the ground that he is a probable purchaser ; for he will say this thing is wrong with the machine, that part is bad, the other part is useless and so on, and thus try to reduce the price of the machine. Therefore I say, Mr. President, so long as Mr. Natarajan is the probable purchaser he should not be in charge of the mill."

Mr. M. NARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, I think I shall be doing a great injustice if I do not relate my experience gained from my association with Mr. Natarajan for some time. Mr. Natarajan approached me regarding this matter, and even asked me to purchase this concern."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" When was it ? "

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Mr. M. NARAYANA RAO :—" In August or July last. Unfortunately or fortunately I come from a family which has had some connexion with the industrial development of this country. I myself happen to be the managing director of a concern which is the premier concern in the Andhra country. So he must have heard of me and he came to me and wanted me to join him in the formation of this new company. He first told me that the Government insisted that one-third of the capital should be found in India; for he said that the Finance Member and some of the Government officials wanted to secure the confidence of the people and that this could be obtained only if one-third of the capital was the concern of the people. I asked for the terms, and thereupon he said, Sir, it was already decided that he should purchase the concern and that Government had decided to sell it to him. I thought he was true and honest and only afterwards I found him false. He told me he had even paid the money to Government. Then I told him that I would have to convene a meeting of the shareholders to see whether they could do something for themselves. I asked him to convene the meeting at Rajamundry, and it was held there and at that meeting Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao, a member of this Council for a long time and who has experience in this business, and Mr. N. Subbarao Pantulu were present. We thought that Government should be approached and asked to give a patient hearing to the shareholders and enable the shareholders to meet and discuss their affairs with the Government. The shareholders were not able to meet and discuss the whole affair for a long time. But the management was in a very bad condition, so much so although requests were made, no meeting was called for and the shareholders were not in a position to try to work the mill. Perhaps if the shareholders are given an opportunity they will be in a position to purchase the mill for this four and a half lakhs for themselves and work it for themselves. My friends are anxious to hear more about Mr. Natarajan. I would request the hon. the Minister to call for a copy of the report which Mr. Pattabhi sent to the Commissioner of Police about Mr. Natarajan, in which his credentials or discredentials (laughter) will be found. Here is a full report sent to me by Mr. Pattabhi. It is a very long report and I cannot read out the whole to the House. I am sorry Sir A. P. Patro is not here. (Laughter.) The old one was called the Indian Industrial Trading Corporation and the present is called Industrial Trading Company. Mr. Natarajan approached one Mr. Subrahmanya Ayyar, a vakil, Sir P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, and others and some of them joined the company and Sir A. P. Patro seems to have taken an interest in the matter. For, after ascertaining the position of the company, Sir A. P. Patro was responsible for the liquidation of the old company, as it was not beneficial to himself or the country. Mr. Natarajan told me that Shirns has offered to take a portion of the capital, i.e., that which is to be subscribed by the Indian people. I talked about the terms and wished to give preference to the old shareholders. He explained to me that $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs is a very small price and the shareholders that would purchase the concern would reap the benefit at least to some extent. So I thought my first duty was to ask the Government to work it themselves. This meeting that I referred to and that was convened at Rajahmundry passed a resolution asking the Government to call for a meeting of the shareholders at which the hon. the Minister for Development might be requested to be present and try and see if the shareholders themselves could work it. A copy of that resolution was sent to

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the hon. the Development Minister and I also had a talk with him about it afterwards. The hon. the Minister said that he had nothing to do with the calling of the meeting, and that either the directors or the shareholders should call for such a meeting, and so on. I told him that the shareholders are anxious to meet and there is nobody to call for a meeting, and I impressed upon him the necessity of calling for a meeting. I think Mr. Anjaneyulu and others were also present at the time. I have not heard anything about it from Mr. Anjaneyulu or anybody afterwards. I also offered that if six months' time were given to me I would try to rally round the shareholders or any new people that may come out with the necessary finance to purchase the concern for the amount that Mr. Natarajan might offer. But the Development Secretary in the presence of the hon. Minister said that I should give a guarantee that if after six months' time I could not purchase the concern, I should pay the penalty, namely, that I should pay whatever the Government might lose on that account. I said that I only wanted somehow or other to see that the shareholders and others are rallied and that something is done in the matter, and that I could not take the risk on myself for any loss to the Government. I am prepared even now, if two or three months' time is given to me, to try to really round the shareholders and also get other people to finance it, and to see that the concern is purchased on the terms offered by Mr. Natarajan. The Government waited already for such a long time and I do not see why the Government should not wait for two or three months more. If they want to sell the concern to Mr. Natarajan they can tell him definitely after two or three months. I am confident that for this 4½ lakhs people will come forward to purchase. And there is a sort of idea in the people that the Government of the country do not care about the shareholders. There would be a lot of co-operation in the country if sufficient time and opportunities are provided for them. So I would appeal to the hon. the Development Minister to at least wait for these two or three months, to give to the shareholders, through me, an opportunity to try and purchase the concern for themselves. I am surprised to hear that Mr. Natarajan is only a supervisor in the mill. The other day we happened to travel from Ellore to Madras and Mr. Natarajan also happened to be in the same compartment. He told me that he has taken possession of the mill. And incidentally I met Mr. John, Council Secretary to the Development Minister, and I asked him what would happen to the Carnatic Paper Mills. He said the hon. the Minister would visit the place some time next month leisurely and see what could be done. So I put Mr. Natarajan and Mr John face to face and told Mr. Natarajan that the hon. Minister was going to come and look in to the affair some time next month, but he replied that the transaction was closed and added 'we have taken possession of the mill'. I said that Mr. John informed me of the Minister's coming visit. He took Mr. John aside and then came and said to me that the Minister did not know anything about this. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Natarajan told me this after Mr. John went a little bit aside.

" These are the facts and I would ask the hon. the Development Minister to take them for what they are worth, to be more careful about Mr. Natarajan and to see that no rectification or tampering or anything of the kind is done by Mr. Natarajan until it is decided by the Government positively whether to hand over the mill to him or to sell the concern to another body, Indian or

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local. I think the first duty of the Government should be to help the shareholders and if they do not come forward, then offer the mill to any other Indian gentleman or any gentleman of those parts who comes forward and offers to take it. I think, if a Government Order is issued and a proper publication of it is made, the Government will stand to gain and the shareholders will also be benefited by it and . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" On this motion, the hon. Member will be in order only to suggest steps to be taken regarding the employment of Mr. Natarajan."

Mr. M. NARAYANA RAO :—" So, Sir, if Mr. Natarajan is there, it may be difficult for anybody to approach the Government for a purchase as he is himself a purchaser. People who are desirous of purchasing will naturally be suspicious of him as he may put the machinery in disorder. It is natural that one who is there will look to his own interests and people outside will generally think that the man who is there would see that the good parts are concealed. Suppose, I am the likely purchaser and if I go there I would think that Mr. Natarajan has been there for such a long time and he would naturally see that alterations are made to the machine in such a way that I would not be able to run the thing. Suppose, he puts a sort of nail or some such thing somewhere, the whole thing would be gone. Can I purchase a machine when a person who is very anxious himself to purchase it is there? My first duty is to see that nothing is wrong with the machinery. If I want to take the thing as I do at this moment, it would be a lot of trouble to me to see that everything is examined and whether everything is all right or not. So, I would suggest to the hon. the Minister to see to the discontinuance of the appointment of Mr. Natarajan immediately if he cares to obtain other purchasers either from the shareholders or from the local people. I would even go to the extent of saying that even if they are under any agreement to pay anything to him, they may pay him the money due to him free as a kind of charity or anything of that kind and dispense with his services immediately in the interests of the mill and the purchasers that are likely to come hereafter. With these few words, I beg to support this motion."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Sir, I want to say a few words as the matter seems to be assuming a rather serious aspect. I am one of those who think that these adjournment motions are generally of no use whatever, but fortunately for the Government and fortunately for us—fortunately for the Government because they have now a chance of redeeming their reputation if they had any till now—there seems to be some prospect of a little good coming out of the present motion. This motion has made it clear as to why the Government are so anxious to foster this so-called Mr. Nat-Rajan. From the answers given yesterday and from the written statement evidently prepared by the department and read by the hon. the Minister, it seems to be clear that this Mr. Natarajan has nothing to do with this business except as the representative—I do not know in what capacity—of a certain corporation. The whole question is whether this corporation itself will be able to fulfil its duties or whether it has come there simply to do mischief, with a view to do harm to the country or with a view to get new machinery order for England. We have clearly now something on paper that a sum of $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs has been deposited with the Government. I am sure the hon. the Finance Member is going to open his fire now. And instead of firing

children's crackers as usual, it will be better if he takes this House into confidence and gives us some information we are asking for. This is not an ordinary matter. The rate-payers of this Presidency are interested at least to the extent of $7\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. The four thousand shareholders mostly from the Andhra districts are interested to the extent of about 16 lakhs which they have subscribed in cash. It is therefore desirable to know as to what this new company is, whether this new company will be able to fulfil its portion of the contract. We will be glad to know when this new company was registered, what the registered capital of this company is, what the subscribed and paid-up capital are and so on. It will be very interesting to know as to whether this company is really composed of businessmen who will be able to run this mill. We have more than once said, and we repeat that statement to-day, that the interests of the Government seem to lie in killing this paper industry as they have already killed some other industry in this Presidency and, with a view to prevent Indian shareholders from paying money hereafter for such institutions, simply to encourage Europeans or Europeans' nominees. I shall be glad to have a declaration that I am wrong, in which case I will be pleased to acknowledge that I am wrong, once in my life. Then the further question is, has this sum of $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs been given as a portion of the money for fulfilling the contract, or as a guarantee to return this factory, if necessary, in its full original state. If the latter, had anybody examined the various pieces of machinery before we handed them over to Mr. Natarajan? My hon. Friend has referred to the possibility of any mischief being done to the machinery. I know of an instance in a mill in which I am interested. An engineer in charge of a Diesal oil engine was dismissed. A few days afterwards the engine had an explosion, and luckily only a few people were injured, and there was no fatal case. On examination, it was found that some sand had been put inside the engine. This shows that some sand can be deposited in the engine and that it will cause much mischief. We know practically nothing, certainly not much, about Mr. Natarajan. But if his attempts to get hold of this mill are frustrated, I am sure, in his human nature, he may do any mischief and it will certainly prevent prospective purchasers from coming in. My hon. Friend from the north, Mr. Narayana Rao, has made a very serious offer. I, Sir, as one of the humble people taking part in industries will also repeat that offer. The hon. the Finance Member asks me to mention as to what my hon. Friend has offered. My idea was to repeat it not once but two or three times. Once the hon. the President will allow me to repeat, a second time I shall repeat it privately, and a third time I shall repeat it in the hon. Member's chamber. It seems that the contract has been practically settled; but if it has not been settled, we want to know whether there is still some ray of hope that the Government may do something to help this large number of poor shareholders and give them a chance to take it up on the terms which the Government have practically accepted from this company.

3-30 p.m. "My Friend has made an offer that he may be given two months by which time he would try his chance of getting another company or this company itself renewed to purchase this concern for the sum that the corporation, or on behalf of the corporation Mr. Natarajan, is offering. We do think that a concern which has cost nearly Rs. 25 lakhs, a concern for which Mr. Raitt, the Government of India expert, has said that the Government should, as a matter of obligation, pay Rs. 10 lakhs to make it going, a concern like that

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must necessarily be worth much more than $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs; and certainly some of us interested in Indian industries and some of us who have even burnt our fingers sometimes in such things will be glad to risk a small sum and try to induce other gentlemen to come forward and take it up. I have satisfied myself that if we do it, it will be no risk and people who invest will be benefited. We are repeating this offer, we repeat it on behalf of the shareholders, on behalf of the people living in that locality and in fact on behalf of the whole province. The Government should publish what the terms are. So far as I see, the corporation wants to purchase the whole concern for $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs.

"We are told that $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs has been deposited; we have not been told as to when the balance is to be paid, and whether the deposit is in the form of security bonds or whether it is in Government bonds or currency notes. I want information as to how the remaining sum of $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs is to be paid. If the Government make up their mind to sell this concern we will certainly consider it, but on one condition, that Mr. Natarajan be sent out at once. The hon. the Minister said yesterday that they had entered into an agreement with Mr. Natarajan for three months. It shows the unbusinesslike manner in which one competitor was given an advantage. Probably the Government were obliged to do it without knowing any of the serious consequences that may result from it. Money seems to be flowing freely from the Government in various matters. We know various concerns on which lakhs and lakhs have been thrown away. We have been told that out of three months, one and a half months are gone; if so, we may probably have to give Rs. 1,000 as compensation if we have to send Mr. Natarajan away. The Director of Industries will be able to select one or two people to look after the mill. Any ordinary maistri can do that work. Certainly he will not do mischief. We do repeat if the Government is really honest and fairminded and sincere in their statement that they want to safeguard the interests of the shareholders and the interests of the country, I challenge them to consent to our agreement, that two months and only two months' time be given to the shareholders and other people. The hon. the Minister, the Director of Industries and possibly the Finance Member may grace their meeting and help the shareholders with their advice to somehow or other effect the much-needed salvation.

"Then again, if you are sincere, you can put it up in public auction; you can advertise it and sell it in public auction so that people may come from far and near and take this opportunity. If that is not accepted, allow the shareholders and their friends to accept those terms. Let Government place their cards on the table, let them show their responsibility by giving due publicity to the matter. If they do not give us all possible information, if they do not give an opportunity to men of this province, so far as this industry is concerned, then they will be playing false to themselves and to the province of Madras."

* The ZAMINDAR OF SINGAMPATTI :—"Sir, I desire to speak a few words in this connexion, with your kind permission. Of course, the benign Government has appointed the Ministers on sound considerations and they have some responsibility. The hon. Mr. Seturatnam Ayyar has selected Mr. Natarajan to watch the mill. Well, I have no idea about Mr. Natarajan. (A voice: (Nobody has any.) I can say I have great love for one Natarajan, who is at Chidambaram. (Laughter.) The hon. Members of this House are hammering

on Mr. Natarajan and the Development Minister. I pity them. (A voice: 'Oh!') The hon. Members of this House are crying and crying. Therefore I think there is some case against Mr. Natarajan. But I have got great doubts in my mind about the phrase, i.e., 'watching the mills', and I shall be most thankful to the Minister if he will satisfy me as to what 'watching the mill' is, whether he means, watching the buildings, watching the machinery or what. (Cheers.) Where was the necessity to appoint a man for merely watching the building and machinery? More light ought to be thrown on the real object."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"Mr. President, I thought of speaking after the Finance Member has revealed the policy of the Government, but since he has not been pleased to do it, I think I shall refer to a few facts concerning this matter. Sir, Mr. Natarajan came in for a good deal of discussion, and he was dissected clean down to the bone. We will leave him alone. Natarajan is only a pawn in the game. I know more about Khaleel Shirazi than some of the Members there. He is out for a big coup; he is after the paper mills at Rajahmundry. The public by co-operation have raised 20 lakhs and invested their money in it. They want a little more time; they are a little nervous; and is this the time for the Government to discredit that mill and make the public believe that all their money and all their effort are going to end in vain? Are you going to sell away the concern because of the 4½ lakhs due to Government? What is the Government's policy in regard to the planters of Malabar, I ask the gentlemen occupying the Treasury Bench? They gave only a few years ago to the planters Rs. 4,60,000 or Rs. 4,90,000. Did you recover a pie from them? Did you not write off those sums, because those people happened to be your cousins? But when it is a case of Indians starting an infant industry and when they find that their resources are not sufficient and want a little help from you, you say, 'Here are our experts who say it is all bad'."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The discussion is about Mr. Natarajan, the watcher, and the hon. Member is not in order to discuss about other experts."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"Mr. President, I am talking of Mr. Natarajan only, and I will end with him. The question arose because the hon. the Minister referred to experts being consulted. I only want to know from the hon. Minister whether any experts from Japan were consulted. They are the best men; you cannot rival the Japanese; for 100 yens you can get down a Japanese expert here. But is the Government prepared to allow that? No. They are always jealous of the Japanese; they are suspicious about them. They want this company to be wound up. They want to decry it and finally arrange to pass it on to a European ring. That is their idea. If they are really inclined to develop this industry, why should they not give it another 4½ lakhs, or wait for some more time instead of shouting out that there is nothing in the mills and they are going to end in smoke? Should that be the attitude of the Government? There is absolutely no case of any industry being ruined by taking some time to rehabilitate itself. On the other hand, the scaremongers who are interested in putting down every Indian concern, are always interested in saying that this thing is going to end and become a failure. That ought not to be the attitude. I have enquired about this Natarajan. He is only a pawn in the big game. (A voice: 'A broker.') Not

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exactly a broker ; he was a broker some time before. I think he is helping the Government, and the Government have paid him Rs. 1,000 for looking after the mills, they say. This Natarajan came and said that he would run the whole show for Rs. 650. He is the coloured fly to be used in the big haul. He said he would pay Rs. 350 to the Superintendent, out of Rs. 1,000. He wants this mill to be transferred from the Government to a private agency, so that that private agency may sell it to a ring of Europeans for a higher price. So the man that stands to gain is Khaleel Shirazi. But the poor shareholders are to lose, to the tune of 20 lakhs. Sir, it was represented by an hon. Member of this House already that he could raise the sum and pay the Government if they had a little patience. I will appeal to the hon. the Minister, if he has any interest in Indian concern, to have a little patience and wait. We promise Government to pay them what they have given us." 3-45 p.m.

The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir :—" Sir, the debate which was started on a comparatively minor issue in connexion with this mill has raised a considerable number of issues which far transcend the very minor question as to how provisional arrangements should be made for looking after the Government property at Rajahmundry. (Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: Government property ?) But before I enter into that question, perhaps I might just make one reference to the speech of the hon. Member from Rajahmundry. I do not know what useful purpose, he thought, would be served by repeating the stale allegations with which he favours this Council on every occasion on which this question of the Carnatic Paper Mills arises. A suggestion was made that Government, and myself in particular, were even more Machiavellian and more wicked than he previously suggested ; that when we made the loan around which so many complications have grown to this enterprise, we were deliberately aiming at entangling this concern in the clutches of the Government so that now, in this year of grace 1928, four years later, we might step in and secure a very valuable property on behalf of the tax-payers. Well, at any rate, I may say that he was entirely wrong in imputing that to me, because I was not a Member of the Government when that loan was made.

"Now, I would turn to the question of Mr. Natarajan. So far as I know, Mr. Natarajan's position is that of an agent for certain financial interests which are interested in the paper industry and which are looking round for a possibility of investing money in India in that industry. (Cries of 'hear, hear.') He was appointed agent on behalf of certain financial interests to enquire into the matter. I understand that those whom he represents have got financial support behind them even in Madras City which is prepared, if necessary, to give guarantees or to take part in this venture. Naturally, men of business do not invest their money in a concern without making some enquiries into it. If they were going to invest money in a concern such as the Carnatic Paper Mills, naturally, they would like to make a thorough examination of the properties, consider the prospects, make some estimates for themselves as to where it is defective, what additional machinery would have to be purchased and how the concern would have to be adapted to their conception of the way in which the paper industry could be run in that particular place. (Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan: And the Government pays for it Rs. 650 a month.) That, of course, takes some time. My hon. Colleague was of opinon that their interest in this concern was perfectly genuine and, that being so, it was perfectly natural that they should ask for an opportunity of examining the whole concern. At the time they asked for this opportunity,

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it was costing the Government Rs. 1,000 a month for the maintenance of the staff and establishment necessary merely to keep the machinery in good order. They offered to undertake that duty which was costing the Government as I said Rs. 1,000 a month if we would pay them Rs. 650 a month. (Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao: And to sit on the property?)"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"May I ask, Sir, that I may not be interrupted? I should have thought better of the Deputy Leader of the Opposition. (Mr. S. Satyamurti: He does not know what parliamentary manners are.) The sum of Rs. 650 is of course quite a bagatelle even for three months. But after all, it is to be considered as a saving in respect of this unremunerative enterprise. There was no reason why the Finance Member should object to a proceeding of that kind provided that there was the necessary safeguard. (Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan: Pennywise policy.) What were the possible risks? It is suggested that this staff or establishment would indulge in throwing sand into the boilers and into the machinery. To what purpose? (Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: To scare away possible purchasers.) They are anxious to purchase this concern. The minimum terms on which the Government would accept their offer are known to them. Why then do they want to scare away prospective purchasers and do damage to what might some day become their own property? Will any businessman suggest that this is a reasonable proceeding? Would Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar, one of the leading businessmen in South India himself, do a thing of that kind which would depreciate the value of the property which he can keep for himself with beneficial results?"

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"A word of personal explanation, Sir. I would do it if I know where the sand is to be put in the machinery so that, if and when I get the machinery, I could remove it without danger and without any great expense."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"I am not a judge of these matters of commercial morality. But I do not believe Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar, knowing as I do his reputation in the business world."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The debate is assuming more the shape of a dialogue. I do not like that we should allow the debate to degenerate into a dialogue."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"To return, Sir. By this arrangement we make a small saving and were in a position to satisfy the people whom Mr. Natarajan represents about the condition and value of the property. Apart from that, the concern did not pass into the hands of Mr. Natarajan. It is still, and it has been ever since the troubles connected with it arose, under the direct supervision of the Director of Industries who is responsible to Government for seeing that the terms of the arrangement with Mr. Natarajan on behalf of his principals are carried out in full. (Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: What are those terms?) I think it is a pity I am not conversant with all the details. (Laughter.) My hon. Colleague whose concern they are will be able to give you the details. (Mr. S. Satyamurti: Why not leave it to him?)"

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*The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. The hon. Member will kindly resume his seat. If the Opposition cannot tolerate the speech of the hon. the Finance Member who is also concerned in the matter of the dues, I do not think the House will at all be benefited by this debate."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I may say, Sir, that the arrangement was entered into for a period of three months. I understand that that period expires on the 1st of January and that we are at perfect liberty to terminate that arrangement at any date which may suit our own convenience. A very important point, because, as I shall explain, our position is entirely open and if any offer is made to us which suggests that we can at once dispense with the services of Mr. Natarajan and the interest which he represents, I have no doubt my hon. Colleague would be entirely willing to do so. But we have not been debating this very minor issue of keeping the machinery in order. What we are really debating and have been debating is the future of the Carnatic Paper Mills. That is the real issue and I think every one knows it. Perhaps I may be permitted to say a few words on that issue.

" I do not want once again to traverse the somewhat melancholy history of this enterprise. It has been expounded, I think, on more than one occasion on the floor of this House. It was started, let us admit, by amateurs in an amateurish way and that although it is a highly specialized and technical industry. It is perhaps no wonder that the original company failed to make good. Government too, possibly, at that time were not fully conversant with all the factors that were essential to considerations of an enterprise of this kind. But they did advance a very considerable sum of money to that enterprise on the assurance of those who were at that time responsible for its conduct. I do not wish to go into every stage of the proceedings, but, more and more it became apparent that the enterprise and the company were not going to make good. It was also evident and becoming more and more clear that none of those connected with that enterprise had any knowledge or experience which was essential if it was ever going to succeed. On that basis, were the Government going to continue to pour in lakhs of the taxpayers' money? Personally I do not think that the Government would have been justified, and I do not think that any Member of this House would accept the proposition that they would have been justified if they had advanced more lakhs to a concern of which they were convinced that under the conditions then existing there was no chance of its coming to a successful issue.

" That view was endorsed by the shareholders themselves. They refused 4 p.m. to invest another rupee into the concern. The hon. Member from Rajahmundry shakes his head but the fact remains that they declined to do so and have continued to do so. Therefore if there was any chance of this industry being placed on its legs it could not be through the agency of those in whose control it was, either the shareholders or the Director. Government had also learnt this and they realized that they too were in the same position as the shareholders. The Government were still the custodians of the taxpayers' money and they were faced by two issues. One was how to reduce the loss to the tax-payers as much as possible and the second was how, if possible, to enable this concern to be resumed and conducted under new auspices. Obviously the two go together. As the Government could not run it, what they wanted to do was to dispose of this concern to people who

would run it and who would be prepared to pay to the Government the largest sum possible in order to enable them to acquire the right to do so."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Not the shareholders."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" The hon. Member refers to shareholders. This matter has been under discussion, I suppose, for the last two years. Have any shareholders come forward with any offer to pay to the Government what they owe or to pay to them even the equivalent of the sum which the Government might get from other interests in order that they might constitute a concern free of all liabilities either to the Government or to any one else ?".

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member has already exceeded the time-limit."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I have very little more to say. If my hon. Colleague were here he would explain that these were the only financial interests that came forward to make an offer at all. That offer was that they would pay 4½ lakhs to the Government—this was to be cash down—if they could establish a clear right to the property, that is to say, they would take over the concern when Government had established its right for a sum of 4½ lakhs. In other words the total loss incurred by Government would be reduced by that amount."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" The shareholders would go to the walls."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" The hon. Member does not surely suggest that we are not going to pay further moneys to the shareholders. The property is Government's. In any case the present arrangement is a matter which does not extend beyond another six weeks.

" With reference to another question of Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar as to whether we have entered into a contract which binds us, I may say that we have absolutely a free hand. At the close of this period of three months Government will be in absolute possession of this mill and are entitled to dispose it to any interests, whether it be shareholders, whether it be Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar or whether it be any other interests in Madras or elsewhere."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" With Mr. Natarajan in possession ! "

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I have already stated that we are entitled to get rid of Mr. Natarajan at any time that suits our convenience and if we thought that the retention of Mr Natarajan or the interests he is representing was going to interfere or prejudice any negotiations with interests with which we are better acquainted, whether it be shareholders or anybody else, then we shall not hesitate to get rid of Mr. Natarajan as an impediment to our carrying on such negotiations. We are not only entirely free to take such a course, but we would prefer, if it were possible, to free this concern and then entrust it to any interests which are derived from this Presidency."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member has exceeded the time-limit."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I shall finish my speech in a minute, Mr. President."

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"There is no discretion vested in the President to allow an hon. Member to exceed his time-limit during the debate on adjournment motions."

(The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir then closed his speech.)

* The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"In view of the expression of opinion in this House I am prepared to say that steps will be taken immediately to stop the employment of Mr. Natarajan and that Government will take steps very soon to frame and make known the conditions and the period during which the shareholders or others may have an opportunity to pay off such amount as the Government fixes to liquidate the loan due to them."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"It comes to me as a somewhat agreeable surprise that the Government have come out with a statement that they will put an end to the employment of Mr. Natarajan and also consider the conditions and the time during which the shareholders may find it convenient to negotiate with the Government for the payment of such amounts that are said to be due to the Government by the shareholders and which were advanced to them as loans. In view of that statement and also in view of the optimism, perhaps the little that I possess in this Government, that this promise would be kept up, I have much pleasure to beg leave of the House to withdraw my motion."

The motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The Council will now resume debate on the resolution of Mr. Bheemayya."

III—*cont.*

APPOINTMENT OF A COMMITTEE TO ENQUIRE INTO THE ECONOMIC CONDITION OF KISTNA, GODAVARI EAST AND GODAVARI WEST—*cont.*

* The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"Mr. President, Sir, this motion proposes a recommendation to the Government that a committee be appointed for the purpose of making an open public enquiry into the economic condition of the tract as preliminary to the resettlement of the districts of Godavari East, Godavari West and Kistna and goes on to recommend that the resettlement scheme report of the Kistna, West Godavari and East Godavari be held in abeyance pending that enquiry.

"Now, Sir, I have considerable difficulty in making any remarks about this resolution as none of the members who spoke indicated clearly the scope of the enquiry desired. It is easy to suggest an economic enquiry but the term covers many descriptions of enquiry and covers a varied field. My further difficulty is how exactly the House considers—I mean those who have proposed and supported this motion have considered—that such an enquiry will have a bearing on the question of resettlement. I would in the first place very briefly invite their attention to the main principles of land revenue settlement in this Presidency. The basis on which land revenue assessment in this Presidency is made is the proposition that the State is entitled to a share of the crop from the land. It is not based on any consideration of the circumstances of the holders of lands. We do not make any difference whether a land is held by a rich man or a poor man. The assessment is made

with reference to the capacity of the land and not with reference to the circumstances of anybody who holds the land. It will therefore not be relevant to the question of assessment as one hon. Member has suggested to consider the share of produce that will remain to each individual after meeting his ordinary expenditure. Another point that should be noticed is, as in fact the Mover or the seconder of that resolution pointed out, that the capacity of the land was estimated with reference to the outturn of the principal crops raised on the land and the assessment was fixed on that basis many years ago. Now that thirty years have elapsed since we made the last settlement we are now considering whether there is any reason why the rates should not be revised either by raising them or lowering them. As some of the hon. Members pointed out there is no statutory law on the subject, yet the rules under which resettlements are carried out are perfectly well known and have not been altered for very many years. In fact one hon. Member who wanted to point out the
4-15 p.m. possibility of these rules being changed had to go back forty years to find an example. These rules again are perfectly clear. The main consideration in dealing with the question of revising the money rates of assessment is whether there has been any change in the general price of agricultural produce of the lands in question during the term of the settlement. Generally, therefore at resettlements the question of economic condition would not come into great prominence were it not for the fact that in recent years the prices have risen very much indeed. So much so that if we were to adopt the present rates as commutation rates, the money rates would be more than doubled. Therefore it is quite obvious that however correct it may be in theory that the ryot should give the same share of the crop to the State, in practice it is found that you cannot upset a man's expenditure by doubling the payment in that way. In recent years, accordingly it has become a feature of resettlement reports to consider how much of this increase it would be practicable to take having regard to the general progress of the tract: and recent settlement reports deal with the various economic considerations with that object. It has never been a principle of the Madras settlements that we should base our rates with reference to the net income, if I may say so, of individuals. I do not mean to belittle in any way the importance of such economic considerations in making alterations whatever they may be in the demand we make from the ryots; I only wish to point out the bearing of those considerations in any settlement scheme.

"Now, there are instructions as to the extent to which the settlement officer should make this enquiry and they have been embodied in the Settlement Manual. The settlement officer in this particular locality took up his duties some three or four years ago and has been working there, not secretly, but perfectly openly to the full knowledge of the ryots. And it is rather strange that after four years we should be asked what he has been doing and be told that nobody has been aware of it. The material he has collected is of two classes, one containing statistics compiled from public records and registers which contain information as to the prices, the cultivation and irrigation figures and so forth for a series of years and the other based on the enquiries in the villages regarding the circumstances of individual ryots. Another important class of statistics is the information based on documents in the registration offices. All these are useful in giving us a general idea of the economic condition of the tract. More than one member complained that these enquiries

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have not been made. I find that these enquiries have been made in a considerable number of villages with great elaboration. Of course they have not been printed or published, partly because it would constitute a great volume of papers in which people up to now have not shown any interest, and partly because they contain details of the private circumstances of individual people. Therefore a very large amount of material having bearing on the economic condition of the tract is available. Of course the speakers would draw different inferences from those drawn by the Settlement Officer from the same materials. This is of course quite natural. You will not expect everybody to draw the same inference from any set of economic data. And it is just that criticism which the Government desired to invite when they published the report for criticism. They have placed on the table the details of the names of the villages where such information was gathered and the instructions which the Settlement Officer issued for the guidance of those who made enquiries in the villages. I am perfectly willing to place before any hon. Member who desires it the details of the various enquiries which are in pamphlets of the kind I hold in my hand. If hon. Members examine them, they will be in a better position to formulate their arguments as to whether the circumstances are such as would make it undesirable to raise the money rates although the increase in prices has been so much as 100 per cent and over. If, however, you say that an open enquiry should be made into the economic condition of the tract by a committee, I do not know what should be understood by it and what lines the committee is to follow. Such a proposal was made some years ago during the old Council when His Excellency the Governor presided. I should like just to read to you what Lord Pentland said on the subject—

'Government are anxious to know the truth; the whole substance of the opposition to this resolution has been the danger of deductions from incomplete facts and incomplete premises. That is the whole fact. The hon. Gentleman speaks as if economic enquiries are the easiest thing to be taken up. They are extremely complex and extremely delicate and require to be conducted by most skilled and impartial investigaters; they are purely scientific operations and economic enquiries should be properly conducted. It would take a very long time, I think, before an economic investigation can be useful so as to enable us to base any large changes of policy on them.'

"At that time the Council resolved finally that there should merely be an examination of a few typical family budgets in connexion with resettlement and that is what has been done in connexion with the present settlement in the enquiries which I have just indicated. As I have said before any inference we may draw from any economic enquiry we may make can only have a general bearing on the question of resettlement.

"After all, except in isolated cases where you have supplied irrigation where formerly it was unirrigated there has been, so far as we know and unless the contrary can be deduced from any figures that we have got, no alteration in the productivity of the land. Logically, therefore, it would follow that the share of the Government represents a much larger number of rupees now than it did 30 years ago since the prices have doubled. Bearing in mind however the danger of upsetting the individual's expenditure by a sudden increase (as the House is aware) the Government have limited any increase in the demand to 18¾ per cent.

"Although prices have risen by 100 per cent the proposal of the Settlement Officer is to raise the rates by only 18¾ per cent. We should want a very strong body of evidence to show that it is undesirable to make this comparatively small increase in the money rates representing, as it does, really 4-30 p.m.

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a considerable decrease in the share of the crop which has to be contributed to the State. (Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—That is why the enquiry is asked for.) But you have the material there. It has not been indicated in what respect the material is wanting because you have not read it fully and you have not considered it. I am quite willing to make it more available to any of the Members who are interested in it and who want to study it and see what conclusions should be drawn from it. There is another passage relating to this matter on which I cannot lay my hands at present. Its general effect is that an economic enquiry is not of a nature which can be conducted, like a criminal case or a suit for partition, by examination of witnesses and by leading evidence. (A voice :—Do it scientifically.) It has to be done scientifically. I would refer hon. Members to the economic enquiries and economic studies prepared by Mr. Gilbert Slater and his students ; hon. Members will see that studies of that nature cannot be conducted by holding a public enquiry as suggested. It needs more detailed work and study. Even when we get such information it is not clear that it will be particularly useful to the problem before us, which is whether, as the result of great rise in prices, we should take a fraction more of the existing money rates of assessment and if so, what that fraction should be. I am quite anxious and willing to make available any information that we have and there is a very great deal to Members interested and desirous of studying it or to the representation of the Ryots Association. I do not see there would be any use in appointing a committee to tour in the three districts in the manner suggested."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Sir, I have listened very carefully to the somewhat unusually long speech of the hon. the Revenue Member in opposing this motion. I have heard every word of what he said which other Members would not have, because I am just opposite to him. But his argument is quite simple. 'The State is entitled to a share of the produce. The State is not interested—at any rate not for the purpose of these resettlements—in the actual economic condition of the ryot. He may be very poor ; he may be starving ; he may be dying. I must have my pound of flesh. Statistics show that prices have doubled , therefore, I must have a share. I have been over-generous ; I ought to have doubled the assessment. But look at my generosity ; instead of getting the 100 per cent increase to which I am rightfully entitled, I have shown you generosity by limiting my demand to $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. Therefore come down on your knees and thank the heavens that Sir Norman Marjoribanks is the Revenue Member. In his generosity and kindness for the ryots of these three districts he has agreed to give up $81\frac{1}{4}$ per cent and is willing to have only $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.' But, Sir, that argument is so unsound that he himself does not believe it, and that his Government do not act upon it. This is borne out by the remarks of the Settlement Officer in the scheme report, by his own speech and by precedents in this matter. It is not safe, it is said, that the Government should make enquiries into the economic condition of the ryots. I would invite the attention of the House to the statement of the Settlement Officer in his own recommendations. He says 'that trade and commerce have increased and that considerable improvement of communications have been proved ; considerably more monies have been spent on luxuries.' Is it the result of an economic enquiry or not? Then we are told that coercive processes have affected only a small fraction of the total revenue. Incidentally, I may mention, Mr. President, for the benefit of the ryots of this Province that, if they are regular and

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voluntary in the payment of the revenue, the Government are likely to be less merciful and that the ryots would get less kind treatment at the hands of the Government. This is a cynical statement. It is an invitation to the ryots of the districts to commit deliberate default and invite coercive processes so that the Government may not, on actual facts and figures also, be able to say that people have paid regularly and voluntarily; therefore they can afford to pay more. It is an incentive not to pay taxes regularly. I do not know if the Government realize the implications of this statement. The Settlement Officer says that, in certain respects, the economic condition of the agricultural public is sounder than before. How did he come to this conclusion? It is not based on some economic enquiry. Therefore, if my hon. Friend, the Revenue Member's argument is sound, all these statements are wholly irrelevant. Then, Sir, the Settlement Officer says 'I make this recommendation on my general knowledge of conditions in the delta and on the basis of the records of the economic enquiries carried by myself and my assistants.' The Government have used other economic enquiries; but they say 'yes; these are enquiries conducted by our officers and their assistants.' When an ex-parte statement like that is printed and placed before the Government they accept it. But when the Council asks for a committee, they say the committee can do nothing at all.

"But, Sir, I join issue with my hon. Friend even on the major premises. I do not think even the Government of Madras who are obsessed by this theory that the State is entitled to a share of the produce irrespective of the economic condition of the ryots cannot go on increasing the land revenue. They will find all the elected Members of the Council and almost all the nominated Members rising up against them, if they venture to lay down such a dictum and to enforce any such doctrine on the poorest ryots of this province.

"Then Sir, this argument of rise in prices is mostly misleading. I am sure the Revenue Member knows it. He talks with his tongue in his cheek if he really believes that this rise in prices justifies an arbitrary increase. For the present purpose, there are three classes of ryots who pay land revenue. There is the first and the largest class which has no grain to sell. The rise in prices cannot really benefit them. It can only benefit those ryots and those producers who can actually have enough for themselves and their families to eat and subsist from year's end to year's end and who can have a surplus to sell in the market. That class practically exhausts the very large majority of ryotwari patta-holders throughout this province. Then, Sir, we have the second class who can spare some grain to sell and that class is, what may be called, the lower middle class, to use a loose phraseology. If it gets some more money by increase in the price of grain, it loses it all by having to pay a higher price for those things which any middle class family must have in these days and the result, the net result, is they have no profit to make at all. There is a small class, I agree, at the very top who make some money out of the rise in prices. If any system can be devised by which that unearned increment may be taxed, I may be for it, speaking for myself. But the present system works unmercifully on all alike and the poorest man has got to pay, proportionately, exactly the same as the richest man in the district has got to pay. This theory is inhuman. This matter has been fully exposed by Sir O'Moore-Creagh, late Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's forces in

India. In a book he has written, a man like O'Moore-Creagh has exploded this theory of the rise in prices justifying a rise in land revenue.

"Then the hon. the Revenue Member was good enough to make another statement which I am repeating for your sake, and for the sake of this House. He said that the Government did not want to upset the expenditure of any man by doubling his land revenue at once. If you do not want to upset the expenditure of any man, if you pause to calculate, in the case of thousands and thousands of these ryots even this $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent increase may not only upset the balance but make it impossible to keep body and soul together from year's end to year's end. He also stated that you must decide how much of the increase is practicable to take. I think I am not misquoting him; he used the word 'practicable.' I want to know if it is practicable for a wise and responsible Government to attach and sell the produce of a ryot, according to well-recognized canons of civilized Government and whether it is practicable for a human Government to make a man and his wife and children starve and take the money in order that you may spend it on the luxuries of the Government. On a matter of that kind I am sure that even the hon. the Revenue Member must concede that elected Members of this Council and those who may be nominated to this committee have at least as much right and as much honesty as any Government Member or any Government officer and the resolution asks for nothing more or nothing less.

"Then, Sir, he referred to the Settlement Officer's enquiry and made much of it. I want to know what those enquiries were, whether any notice was given to the ryots concerned and whether enquiries were made of them directly. Then he quoted Lord Pentland as suggesting that economic enquiries can never be a basis for increased resettlement. Then why make points about it? Let it be stated 'we have got the power; we therefore propose to raise the land revenue; pay or die.' But, on the other hand, if your idea is to have some kind of economic enquiry, there is no use of quoting Lord Pentland and fighting shy of this resolution which only wants an open economic enquiry. (A voice:—What does the word 'open' mean?) My hon. Friend wants to know what 'open' means. Let him ask Sir John Simon who has used the words 'joint, free, open conference' as to what those words mean.

"My hon. Friend, the Revenue Member, said that he was willing to give these figures to such Members of the Legislative Council as may want them; but he cannot allow a committee to go about collecting these figures. It seems to me that he made the worst possible case against a resolution of this kind. In fact my hon. Friend was never so long as he was to-day; he was barren of evidence; he had no arguments. When he took 20 minutes to make out a simple case according to him, that shows that he had no argument really to advance.

"Our trouble would have been easier but for the intervention of the Chairman of the Simon Committee of the Madras Legislative Council. That friend has made up his mind that, except in his own committee of which he happens to be the Chairman, he has lost all faith in mixed committees. What is his committee, if not a very mixed committee which consists of one parliamentary committee as it is called, with him? He has such faith in that enquiry which the people of the country do not want and of which he is admittedly an impotent member.

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"If he could have such faith in that committee which the people of the country do not want and of which he is admittedly an impotent member, I ask how does it lie in his mouth to state that a mixed committee consisting of hon. Colleagues of his in this Council and the several others will serve any purpose whatever on these committees? Then, Sir, he lectured to us on the want of public spirit on our part, that we should ourselves come forward and conduct these enquiries . . ." 4-45 p.m.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member has already exceeded his time-limit."

* Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"I shall just say a few words, Mr. President. The hon. the Revenue Member was pleased to adumbrate a very strange principle indeed, viz., that the State is entitled to a share of the produce and that they are entitled to take their share irrespective of the economic condition of the holders of the land. This was condemned by Lord Salisbury, the Secretary of State for India, about 50 years ago. He condemns that principle in the following terms in his despatch.

"If we say that it is rent an official in India will hold the Government in strictness entitled to all that remains after wages and profits have been paid and he will do what he can to hasten the advent of the day when the State shall no longer be kept by any weak compromises from the enjoyment of its undoubted rights. If we persuade him that it is revenue he will note the vast disproportion of its incidence compared to that of other taxes and his efforts will tend to remedy the inequality and to lay upon other classes and interests a more equitable share of the fiscal burden. I prefer the latter tendency to the former. So far as it is possible to change the Indian fiscal system it is desirable that the cultivator should pay a smaller proportion of the whole national charge. It is not in itself a thrifty policy to draw the mass of revenues from the rural districts where capital is scarce, sparing the towns where it is often redundant and runs to waste in luxury. The injury is exaggerated in the case of India where so much of the revenue is exported without a direct equivalent. As India must be bled, the lancet should be directed to the parts where blood is congested or at least sufficient, not to those who are already feeble from the want of it."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"May I ask the hon. Member to give me the reference?"

* Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"Despatch of the Secretary of State for India, Lord Salisbury, about the year 1875 or so—I do not remember the exact year. This is only an extract from it from which I am reading. I shall give the reference later on.

"Ever since that time, it is not followed in practice. Though it is not put on paper, the State has not been following the principle that the State is strictly entitled to its share of the produce irrespective of the capacity of the landholder. That being so, it is necessary to go into the economic condition of the people. That is why, as a matter of fact, in resettlements, an enquiry is being held by the Government into the economic condition of the people.

"The hon. the Revenue Member was pleased to state that in regard to the cope of the proposed enquiry, no suggestions were made by the speakers. I shall just give the headings, for the information of my hon. Friend and of he House, of points which were not touched by the resettlement officer. He

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did not examine the health conditions of the locality, the standards of life of the people, the income necessary for the maintenance of a family, etc. These were pointed out in my letter to the Government in reply to a query on the subject. I do not however want to take the time of the House by going through all those things in detail.

"The hon. the Revenue Member was also pleased to say that the resettlement rules are perfectly well known and though there has been no publication, the people must have come forward before the Settlement Officer and placed the facts before him. This aspect of the matter was condemned by no less an authority than the Joint Parliamentary Committee. They say that the settlement rules are often very obscure and not understood by the people at large and therefore there should be a statute simplifying the procedure.

"My hon. Friend also stated in another connexion, in replying to some of my questions put on the floor of this House, that the Settlement Officer's report itself could not be understood by the people at large, that only some people could understand it, and that he would therefore get prepared a summary of its contents, so as to be understood by the people. The resettlement rules are very technical and are not well understood as a matter of fact.

"My hon. Friend also stated that the material gathered by the Settlement Officer is available for examination; but the whole question is that the material that is really necessary to find out the real economic condition of the people has not been collected by the Settlement Officer. In order to collect such material, a committee is necessary. The material already collected is not quite sufficient. Further, by looking simply at the material and the results of the enquiry, we cannot contradict them. We must have an opportunity to get the materials that will go to contradict the facts stated in the report. If we take up only the material already collected, they may lead only to the inferences drawn by the Settlement Officer. With such material as the Government have placed before us, we cannot know the exact condition of the ryots. Therefore, Sir, I support the motion."

Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED :—"I move for a closure, Sir."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"I second it."

The closure motion was put to the House and carried.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is—

* *That this Council recommends to the Government that—*

'(*a*) *for the purpose of making an open public enquiry into the economic condition of the tract as preliminary to the resettlement of the districts of Godavari East, Godvari West and Kistna, Government be pleased to constitute a committee not less than half of the members of which being elected by this Council*; *and*

'(*b*) *pending the said enquiry, the resettlement scheme report of the Kistna, West Godavari and East Godavari districts be held in abeyance.*'"

The resolution was put to the House and carried.

The Council then adjourned at 4–53 p.m., to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

28th November 1928]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 757-C asked by Mr. D. Narayana Raju at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th November 1928, page 282 supra.]

Extract from letter from the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, No. 2022-5, Public, dated 25th October 1928, to the Secretary, Madras Provincial Committee.

In Resolution* No. 4 received with Sir A. P. Patro's letter of October 10th the Committee ask that they should receive the same scale of emoluments, travelling allowance and other allowances as the Indian Central Committee presided over by Sir Sankaran Nayar. I am to point out that the conditions under which Sir Sankaran Nayar's Committee are called to work are very different from those applicable to the Provincial Committee. The Indian Central Committee is required to accompany the Indian Statutory Commission on tour throughout India and Burma, and this entails upon them the devotion of the whole time of the Chairman and Members to the duties they have undertaken; it also imposes on them considerable extra expenses in hotel charges and the like. The Provincial Committee, on the other hand, will not so far as the Government is aware be required to tour to any extent, and their journeys, if any, will be confined to the limits of the Presidency, and will ordinarily have to be undertaken only to enable the Members to attend meetings at Madras. The Committee, moreover, is one appointed by the Legislative Council and it appears to the Government appropriate that the allowances granted to its Chairman and Members should be those ordinarily admissible to the Members of the Legislative Council when employed on the work of committees so appointed.

* That this Committee be allowed to draw the same scale of emoluments, travelling and other allowances as the Indian Parliamentary Committee.

TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

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Appendix II.

[Vide answer to question No. 787 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th November 1928, page 317 supra.]

Statement showing the number of Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors and petty yard officers employed in the Fisheries Department on the West Coast and the communities to which they belong.

	Inspectors.	Sub-Inspectors.	Petty yard officers.
Brahman	...	4	...
Nayars	...	4	11
Thiyyas	1	6	3
Ballavas	...	2	1
Fishermen	2	8	5
Indian Christian	...	6	2
Muhammadans	...	..	4
Total	3	30	26

Appendix III.

[Vide answer to question No. 791 asked by Mr. K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th November 1928, page 319 supra.]

Copy of the resolution passed at the Mirasidars' meeting held under the presidency of M.R.Ry. M. Rama Ayyar Avargal on the 29th October 1927 at Mudikondan, Tanjore district.

1. Whereas our Presidency had been able to spend Rs. 959·33 lakhs ever since 1919–20 with its own finance which was not in any way lower than that of other provinces ;

2. Whereas the income of our province had been increased, since the whole amount under the heads of land, stamp and excise had been transferred from the Imperial Government to our province owing to the introduction of the new reforms ;

3. Whereas our Government has further increased the court-fees and stamp duties ;

4. Whereas our Government has begun to spend extravagantly all the amount which has come up to Rs. 1,416·96 lakhs during 1925–26 from Rs. 959·33 lakhs, through the various ways mentioned above ;

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5. Whereas the Imperial Government has further allowed us to have the provincial contributions amounting to Rs. 348 lakhs which has hitherto been paid to them to ourselves;

6. Whereas the expenditure upon the establishment of our Government has increased from Rs. 468·96 lakhs in 1917–18 to Rs. 762·23 lakhs in 1925–26;

7. Whereas many quarters and bungalows for officials are being built year after year;

8. Whereas many elementary schools and some hospitals have no buildings of their own in our province;

9. Whereas the ryotwari landholders of our province are being burdened with heavy taxation through periodical settlements when the financial exigencies do not necessitate such enhanced taxation;

10. Whereas the rural population of our province is suffering from lack of facilities in regard to sanitation, agriculture and communications;

11. Whereas a motion for a supplementary grant out of the abovementioned Rs. 348 lakhs is to be placed before the Legislative Council; and

12. Whereas reduction in the ryotwari land tax is already overdue and the reconstruction of rural parts is absolutely necessary, the amount now on hand is to be beneficially utilized:

This public meeting held at Mudikondan, Tanjore district, requests that the Government should order a public inquiry by a mixed body of officials, and non-officials, into the just and proper expenditure hitherto spent and to suggest sound methods to utilize the above said Rs. 348 lakhs and also strongly protests against allowing any amount of expenditure from it, prior to the committee's recommendations.

M. Rama Ayyar,
President

வாய்மையே வெல்லும்
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

CORRIGENDUM.

Proceedings of the Legislative Council of the Governor of Madras.

Thursday, the 29th November 1928.

Vol. XLV. No. 4.

In the Poll list printed at page 521, under Ayes—

For "50. Mr. T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar," *read* "50. Rao Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar".

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Council.

21*st December* 1928.